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V I E W
 OF
 The Merchants House of Glasgow;
 CONTAINING
 HISTORICAL NOTICES
 OF ITS
 ORIGIN, CONSTITUTION AND PROPERTY,
 AND OF THE
 Charitable Foundations
 WHICH IT ADMINISTERS.



Presented to the House of Commons by the Lord Dean of Guild.
 Lord Dean of Guild.

1793

PRINTED BY J. G. & J. H. B. IN THE CITY OF GLASGOW.

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PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE BY ARCHIBALD ORR EWING, ESQUIRE OF BALLIKINRAIN,
LORD DEAN OF GUILD, 1866.

GLASGOW:
PRINTED BY BELL & BAIN, 41 MITCHELL STREET.
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P R E F A C E.

SHORTLY after his installation as LORD DEAN OF GUILD, MR. ARCHIBALD ORR EWING of Ballikinrain brought under the notice of the Directors of the Merchants House of Glasgow the very general wish which prevailed among the Members to obtain copies of the Constitution and Regulations of the House, and that as the Sketch written by the late MR. JAMES EWING of Strathleven, and published in 1817, was almost out of print, it was desirable that it should be reprinted, with such additions as would bring down the History to the present time. The Directors, cordially approving of this suggestion, remitted to MESSRS. ARCHIBALD ORR EWING, JAMES LUMSDEN, ALEXANDER RONALDSON, JAMES ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, and MICHAEL CONNALL, as a Committee, to carry the same into effect.

The Committee finding, through the researches which they instituted, that much interesting matter, not embraced in Mr. James Ewing's Sketch, existed among the Archives of the House, resolved that, instead of a reprint, it was preferable that a larger and more comprehensive Volume should be published; and, accordingly, they have endeavoured, by embodying not only the substance of that Sketch, but also the further materials now rendered available, to give effect to the Lord Dean of Guild's suggestion, in the preparation of the present Work. The publication of this Volume appears the more necessary when regard is had to the extensive changes and Burgh Reforms effected during the reigns of King William IV. and of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, as well as to the great increase in the Population and Trade of Glasgow, and to the important Trusts which are now reposed in a Corporation holding the high position occupied by the Merchants House among the Municipal Institutions of the City.

When Mr. Ewing's Sketch was compiled, fifty years ago, the origin of the Merchants House, as an Institution, seems to have been ascribed to the Letter of Guildry of Glasgow in 1605, and its existence considered, to a certain extent, as dependent on the Council or Corporation of the Burgh, which at that time exercised the power of conferring exclusive privileges of Trading and of Manufacturing within the limits of its territorial boundaries. It is difficult, however, to perceive what greater reason there was for holding the Letter of Guildry, or the Act of its ratification by Parliament, in 1672, as the earliest limit of its existence as an Institution, than there would be for restricting the origin of the House to the year 1676, when its oldest existing Minute Book commences, or even to the year 1659, when the first Subscription was obtained of Matriculated Members to what were termed the "Gold" or Guild Books of the Incorporation. To those who closely and impartially examine into the rise of such Institutions it will be evident that the true origin of the Merchants House of Glasgow, like that of similar Associations, is to be traced back to a much more remote period, and is to be discovered in the necessities of the community, as these gradually developed themselves in the progress of an increasing civilization.

It is much indeed to be deplored that prior records are now amissing, but as little consequence was, within a much later period than two centuries ago, attached to the preservation of documents of even greater importance, no inference can justly be drawn from their absence against the existence of the Institution prior to 1605. As it is, sufficient materials exist in the Archives of the House for a History of much local interest and value.

It may be necessary to explain the reason why, considering the expense and labour of the present publication, a continuous narrative of the History of the House to the present time has not been given. The Records of the House, from which the materials for such a work must necessarily be drawn, until a comparatively recent period,—but more especially during the last, and commencement of the present, century,—consist almost entirely of a resumé of the matters and measures which interested and affected the whole Public of Scotland, and consequently their epitome involved a Political History of the times rather than of a Local Institution. Such a History required greater

PREFACE.

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maturity of preparation than the limited time permitted within which it was considered desirable to issue this work. There was also this further reason in favour of the plan adopted—of giving Extracts from the Minute Books of the House, and other relative chronicles and documents—that not only was there thus afforded the most authentic record of the proceedings of the House, —virtually embracing its History,—as well as of the views entertained at the time by the Members respecting these public matters and measures, but there was also thereby preserved and rendered accessible a greater variety of interesting Munimenta than would otherwise have been the case.

The Records of the Parliament of Scotland, the Reports of the Commissioners on the Scottish Municipal Corporations, and other similar authorities, have been the sources from which are drawn the substance of the first Introductory Chapter, written with the view of affording as accurate and succinct an account as possible of the origin and progress of the Merchant Guild in Scotland, illustrative of what might otherwise have been obscure, or possibly even misunderstood, in the History of our own local Institution.

The second Introductory Chapter, or that specially relating to the Merchants House, commences with the earliest notices of the Merchant Guild, as forming part of the constituency in the Burgh Corporation of Glasgow, and these brought down to the date of the Letter of Guildry—an analysis of the provisions of which is given, so far as these concern the Merchants Rank, or prescribe laws for the government of their Incorporation. The changes in the Constitution so enacted, and the successive alterations and amendments on the Regulations, resulting in the now existing Bye-Laws of the House, are then stated. The Judicial element in the Constitution of the House is next brought under review, mention being here made of the Jurisdiction of the Dean of Guild Court, and of the office of the Lord Dean of Guild. The Merchant House is then treated of in its capacity of a Charitable Institution, relative to which there is given an enumeration of the various original sources of its Revenue—viz., the Unlaws or Fines, the Mortcloths and Bucket Money, the Benefactions and Mortifications, and the Gold Book Subscriptions. The Investments of the House, the acquisition of its different Heritable Properties,

the Pension Rolls, as also the Account and Minute Books, are thereafter referred to, and the Chapter is concluded with an allusion to some interesting incidents in the annals of the House respecting the exercise of the power of supervision it at one time possessed over the financial affairs of the Burgh, the advice and assistance which it afforded in matters concerning the ordinary welfare of the Town and the Citizens, and the deep interest it invariably took, not only in promoting projects of public utility and improvement, and in stimulating the trade and commerce of the Country, but in the many political and social questions which from time to time affected the interests of Glasgow and the Community at large.

The copy of the Letter of Guildry, and Minutes of its ratification by the Town Council, given in this volume, have been carefully collated with the copies and extracts, more or less authentic, in the older Histories of Glasgow. The original document itself appears long ago to have gone amissing; and it is a somewhat curious coincidence that not only the Minutes of the Merchants House, as previously noticed, but also the volume of the Minutes of the Town Council of Glasgow of that date (1605), in which the Letter of Guildry is stated to be recorded, and the Minutes of the Trades House of the same period, are all now awanting.

As the oldest Minute Book of the House extant dates only from the year 1676, extracts have been given from the Act or Sederunt Books of the Dean of Guild Court, so far as these exist of an earlier date. These are intended not only to supply, as far as possible, the hiatus in the proper Minutes of the House from its new Constitution under the Letter of Guildry, but also to illustrate the original and extensive jurisdiction and the forms of procedure of that most ancient and honourable Court.

Adopting a Chronological arrangement, a consecutive series (from 1676) of Extracts from the Minutes of the House are given, as illustrative of its Constitution and Functions, its Property, and the Charitable Foundations which it administers, the national, local, and domestic matters which from time to time have formed the subject of its deliberations, and generally, its history and progress to the present time.

In transcribing the earliest of these Acts, Minutes, and Documents, it has been considered interesting to give the contractions and peculiarities of ortho-

graphy exactly as they appear in the original records, but as the meaning of several of these may not easily be understood, a Glossary has been appended to the Volume.

After the excerpted Minutes there follows an interesting and valuable Account of the House's old possessions of Easter and Wester Craigs.

Illustrative Drawings are given in the volume of the old or former Merchants Hall in the Bridgegate, and of its still existing Steeple in Guildry Court, of the present handsome building for the New Hall in Hutcheson Street, also views of the Necropolis or Fir Park Cemetery of the House, and of the Cathedral, with the intervening "Bridge of Sighs," "erected to unite the tombs of many generations who have gone before, with the resting-places destined for generations yet unborn." It has further been considered desirable to give fac-similes of what are believed to be the autographs of the different Deans of Guild, obtained principally from records and documents belonging to the House; and also a fac-simile of the Subscription Sheet for the expenses of promoting an opposition, in 1777, to a measure, then on the point of being introduced into Parliament, respecting the importation and exportation of Corn, numerous signed by the leading Mercantile firms of the period in Glasgow, which may serve to recall some interesting associations.

In order that the Volume may be practically useful for reference, a copious Index has been compiled, in which, besides the whole subjects and matters, there will also be found a reference to the name of every person mentioned in the sequel.

In submitting the present publication to the Members of the Merchants House, the Directors have the pleasing duty of acknowledging their obligation to those who have contributed its interesting materials.

To MR. JOHN BUCHANAN, Member of the Faculty of Procurators, a gentleman well known for his archæological research and knowledge of local history, they are indebted for the Notes on the House's old possessions of Easter and Wester Craigs.

To MR. ANDREW SCOTT, late of Her Majesty's Customs, they owe the valuable selections and extracts from the Minutes of the House, from the year 1791 to the present time.

And to MR. WILLIAM HENRY HILL they are indebted for the preliminary Chapters which form so suitable an introduction to the History of the House, for the deciphering and transcription of the earlier records, and for other parts of the Volume. Mr. Hill has also most kindly given his services in superintending the passage of this Work through the press.

The contributions of these gentlemen, interesting and valuable as they are, would probably, however, have been unavailable to the Members of the House, had it not been for the liberality—which the Directors desire suitably to acknowledge, and which the Members will cordially appreciate—of MR. ARCHIBALD ORR EWING of Ballikrain, present LORD DEAN OF GUILD, who most handsomely bears the cost of publication, and by whom this Volume is now presented to the House.

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INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

THE MERCHANT GUILD.

THE term Guild is derived from the Anglo-Saxon "Gildan," and primarily signified a tribute or payment. It came afterwards to be used in the sense of a fraternity or fellowship: Jamieson, our best authority on words used in Scotland, considers that the term had its origin "not only from the contribution made by the members, but, as Spelman supposes, from their sometimes exacting the 'Wergeld,' or compensation for the slaughter of one of their number." Various and even conflicting etymons and definitions may indeed be advanced; but be these as they may, it cannot be disputed that the Association of the "Gilda Mercatoria," or Merchants Guild, is one of the earliest and most remarkable features in the progress of commerce and manufacture. It is therefore not a little surprising that so slight information should exist either in regard to the original institution of these fraternities or to their subsequent history: excepting, perhaps, an Essay of Madox, the Historiographer to King George I., in which Guilds are noticed, almost incidentally, in the general History of the Cities and Boroughs of England, there is scarcely any original source from which collected information on the subject can be obtained. From his *Firma Burgi*, however, we learn that a Merchant Guild existed in Mantua so early as the year 1090. Not long afterwards these societies came to be in general repute in Italy,

and in the cities of the Mediterranean, then the principal seats of commercial enterprise; and from thence the custom of merchants forming themselves into Guilds for their mutual protection and advantage passed to the trading nations of the west of Europe.

Though it is with the history of the Merchants Guild we have particularly to deal, it is not uninteresting or foreign to the subject to notice that originally such associations were seemingly not confined to the mercantile or trading classes. According to Madox there were in England Religious Guilds or fraternities distinguished from the various orders of Monkhoo*d*, as well as secular Guilds. In Scotland also, where, in the early period of its history, from the comparative poverty of the other classes of society, the trade of the country was to a great extent in the hands of the religious houses, many instances are to be found of royal charters conferring on these communities exclusive privileges and monopolies of trade and fishery. According to Chalmers, "Alexander I. granted to the monastery of Scone the 'Can,' or custom *unius navis sive propria navis fratrum sive illius quem proloquuntur*. The abbot and convent had a ship of their own, which Alexander II. was studious to protect; and other monasteries had also their ships. The monks of the Isle of May, in the entrance of the Forth, had ships which were specially exempted from can, toll, or custom, by a charter of David I. From the same authority they had the right of fishery around their own shores; and they acquired from successive kings so many commercial privileges as to convert them into a trading, much more than a religious, community."* These recorded grants to Fraternities on the Eastern Coast were doubtless prompted by the policy of our Scottish Monarchs to foster and maintain an intercourse and friendly communication between the Ecclesiastical Establishments, which ultimately formed the Metropolitan Diocese of the kingdom, and the opposite continental powers. It may, therefore, not improbably be in-

* Caledonia, Vol. I., pp. 778, 782.

ferred,—though the general devastation by King Edward I. of our ancient national records, and the abstraction by James Bethune, Archbishop of Glasgow, in 1560, of the muniments, more particularly those illustrative of the acts of the Church in the West of Scotland, makes it now impossible of proof,—that in the rich valley of the Clyde, where King David I. had early established a Royal Burgh, and where the Kings of Scotland had their frequent residence, in the neighbourhood of as numerous and prolific fishings as existed on the eastern shores, and more especially in the district of that far-famed island once the seat of learning, whose monastery formed “the Luminary of the Caledonian Regions,” similar ecclesiastical intercourse and civil policy may have called into existence similar associations, and perhaps a more prosperous and a more permanent Guild.

It is not very clear by whom the practice of forming Guildries was first introduced into England, where it has been assumed by many authorities, that trade and commerce were of earlier growth, and that traces of Merchant Guilds are to be found at a much more ancient period, than in Scotland. It is very generally supposed that England owes the institution to the Normans, and probably, so far as its modern acceptance is concerned, this may be the case; but to the general assumption of a greater antiquity in this respect in favour of England, an undisputed assent ought not to be conceded. The trade or commerce of Scotland was undoubtedly at no time so great as that of England. But the Normans, or Norman-French, were certainly not a commercial or a trading nation, and it was only between the time of Henry III. (A.D. 1216) and that of Queen Elizabeth (A.D. 1558) that, as Macaulay states, the trade of England “grew and flourished.” It is also no doubt true that, for the political purposes of the Crown, the towns and burghs of England were at a much earlier period than in Scotland called on to send representatives to Parliament; but, on the other hand, the

sea-faring and migratory character of the Scotch—their numerous fisheries for the food of the people and for export—their longer established and more friendly intercourse with France and other parts of the Continent—their far earlier adoption of the new style in the computation of the year—their earlier acquaintance with the principles and practice of banking—and the early preaching of Christianity in the country—all warrant us in questioning to some degree the priority assumed for England in the recognition of these institutions.

If it is correct to believe that burghs, in this as in other countries of Europe, were the result of the relation which a mutual interest established between the Crown or Sovereign and the mercantile classes of the people, it may not be an altogether mistaken inference to suppose that Guilds, or societies privileged by the sovereign with exclusive rights and monopolies, preceded and gradually led the way to the more comprehensive aggregations into burghs, in which Guilds, without being entirely blended in the general mass, became ultimately an integral and most important part. Madox, indeed, supports this supposition in attributing to the Saxons the introduction of Guilds into England; for it cannot be disputed that the term was used in the sense of a tax or payment by these inhabitants of Britain long before the Norman conquest; and in process of time, by a very ordinary etymological transition, indicative of a corresponding change in the subject denoted, the term would come to express the body or community of persons by whom the tax or gild was paid.

But if the origin of burghs in England is involved in obscurity, and the question of the date of the original introduction of Merchant Guilds in that country reduced to surmise and conjecture by the absence of reliable contemporary evidence of so early a period, it is certainly much more so as regards Scotland, where, from the loss or abstraction of our National Records and other authentic chronicles, it becomes peculiarly unwarrantable to affect anything

like certainty as to the origin of Merchant Guilds. The most which can be done is to notice the earliest instances existing of their recognition in Royal Charters and Acts of Parliament, and from these sources to trace out their history and progress.

That the Merchant Guild existed in Scotland as a separate or exclusive society so early as the reign of William the Lion, appears from the statute passed in 1209, "Anent ye libertie of ye Merchandis Gilde," by which it was ordained "yat ye merchandis of ye realme sall haif yair merchand gilde, and sall ioice and possesse ye samyn, with libertie to by and sell in all placis withyn ye boundis of ye liberties of burghis."* Notices of an earlier date of merchants existing in Scotland as a section of the community privileged and distinct from the other classes, may also be found in the Capitulary commonly known as the *Leges Quatuor Burgorum*—a compilation of burghal ordinances or laws accredited to the reign of King David I., (1124-53.) It is disputed, however, how far the state of matters which the provisions of these statutes might seem to imply did actually exist in Scotland at the time, or whether the statutes themselves were not to a certain extent an adoption by us of a system of burgh regulations existing elsewhere at the time as a code of laws for the future regulation of our own burghs, and for circumstances which might be expected to arise in after-times. We are therefore scarcely entitled to take it for granted, from the mention which is there made, that the Merchant Guild in Scotland was at that time a fully developed institution of the country, though it is not unreasonable to suppose that it had even then a real and practical existence. Hence we can only with certainty cite the statute of William the Lion as the earliest legislative recognition of Merchant Guilds, then admittedly in existence, but the exact date of whose first institution in this country is involved in the same obscurity

* Acts of Scots Parl., 1209, cap. 39, Thomson's Ed.

and uncertainty as pervades the origin of similar institutions in England.

Apparently the earliest instance of the recognition of the Merchant Guild by royal charter occurs in a grant by William the Lion in 1179, giving "burgensibus meis de Aberdoen, et omnibus burgensibus de Morauia, et omnibus burgensibus meis ex aquilonali parte de Münth, manentibus liberum Ansum suum tenendum, ubi voluerint, et quando voluerint, ita libere, et quiete plenarie, et honorifice sicut antecessores eorum tempore Regis David, avi mei, Ansum suum liberius et honorificentius habuerunt."* The Commissioners on the Scotch Municipal Corporations draw the conclusion from this charter, that the individuals in whose favour it was conceived were not united in a single burghal community, in the present meaning of the term, and regard it as proving that among the merchant traders of Scotland at that early period there had been formed a federation whose alliance and whose common privileges and immunities had been recognized and protected so early as the reign of King David I.; and to this opinion of his co-reporters Mr. Cosmo Innes lends the renewed weight of his authority in his erudite Sketches of Early Scottish History.

Another early instance in the municipal history of Scotland of a license to establish, or more properly to continue and uphold, a Merchant Guild occurs in a charter granted by Alexander II. in the year 1222, in favour of the burgh of Aberdeen, which bears, "concedo etiam burgensibus meis de Aberden ut habeant gildam suam merchantriam."† It must not be supposed, however, from the terms of this charter, that all burgesses were members of the Merchant Guild. On the contrary, the *Leges Quatuor Burgorum* at least afford evidence that a difference between the two ranks existed, by the enactment of the statute "Anent mutis betuix a burges and a marchand," that "gif a

* Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen, Vol. I., p. 8.

† *Ibid.*, p. 11.

mute be raisyt betuene a burges and a marchand, it sall be endyt wythin ye thrid flud of ye see."* This extract tends to show that not only did a difference of class then exist, but that even at that time the disputes between the merchants and the ordinary resident burgesses in the burghs had become the subject of special legislation; and it is also illustrative of the consideration in which our merchants, as principally sea-faring men, were held, in so far as it provides that they were not to be subjected by the protraction of their lawsuits to longer delay or demurrage than three floods or tides of the sea.

The true relation of the Merchant Guilds at this early period to the general body of the burgesses cannot, indeed, be satisfactorily traced. That all the brethren of the Guild were burgesses at the earliest well-ascertained period in the history of the burghs is generally admitted, though latterly this was not invariably the case, as would appear, among other evidences, from the Letter of Guildry of Glasgow, prescribing for the case of a guild brother who is not at present burgess and freeman of the burgh.† But that all burgesses were guild brethren, or entitled as a matter of right to a place in the Guild, would be difficult to establish; and, indeed, an exception which occurs in the above-mentioned charter of Alexander II. in favour of the city of Aberdeen, of fullers and weavers, "*concedo etiam burgensibus meis de Aberden ut habeant gildam suam merchatriam exceptis fullonibus et telluriis*," seems a sufficient proof to the contrary. Without asserting, however, that any particular class of burgesses constituted the Merchants Guild, and that all other sections were absolutely excluded, it is abundantly evident that Commerce, in contradistinction to the Mechanical Arts, formed the basis of these associations; and the probability in the general case is, that owing to the jealousy of encroachment, and the exclusive policy of the merchant rank, the other classes of burgesses were, by imitation, gradually drawn into similar but separate fraternities.

* Acts of Scots Parl., cap. 8, Thomson's Ed.

† Art. 24.

That such Societies or Corporations of the Craftsmen were of more recent origin than the Merchant Guilds may be gathered from their much more artificial structure and definite form; and a further distinction in favour of the Merchant Guilds, as superior both in point of antiquity and of importance, may be drawn from the circumstance that, while in the earliest Charters and Acts of Parliament in favour of the Burghs Royal in Scotland there is frequently an express recognition of the Merchants Guild, apparently in no one single instance of an early date can the original incorporation of the Craftsmen be traced directly either to the Royal prerogative or to the authority of Parliament. The Letters of Deaconry or Seals of Cause of the Crafts fraternities were in fact charters creating subaltern Corporations under the authority and within the bounds of the burgh, while the Merchant Guilds were co-equal with the burghs themselves in their position as vassals of the Crown.

It must, however, be admitted that the difference between commerce and trade and manufacture or handicraft was by no means strongly marked in the ancient charters which conferred on the burghs in Scotland a monopoly of the commerce and manufacture within their respective bounds; nor were the distinctions between the classes of individuals entitled to these privileges originally well defined, though ultimately, from the association of the members of the different classes into separate fraternities, mutually jealous of each other, the distinction became in every respect very apparent.

The formation of these confraternities of Artizan Burgesses or Craftsmen into separate and rival Guilds or associations, and their tendency to factious combination, appears to have been anxiously deprecated by the higher and more opulent class of Burgesses, constituting the Merchant rank, and who as such were naturally possessed of the greater influence or power in the government of all considerable burghs, and may be presumed to have been anxious to secure and

perpetuate their predominance; while, on the other hand, the very want of a proper influence in the administration of burghal affairs would assuredly rouse the jealousy of the craftsmen, then rising to greater wealth and consideration, and would naturally incite them to form these very combinations for the purpose, amongst others, of obtaining a more equal representation and a consequent increased political importance.

This feeling of suspicion on the one side, and of jealousy on the other, was not momentary or accidental, neither was it entirely attributable to religious causes, or to the adoption by the craftsmen generally of the doctrines of the Reformed religion, while the merchant rank adhered to the tenets of the Church of Rome, as has been assumed by the able historian of the Trades House of Glasgow. Doubtless the principles of Protestantism, as they enlarged the minds of men, and accustomed them to greater freedom of thought, would lead them to assert their civil rights, and to lay claim to political privileges with a greater boldness than they had formerly ventured in assuming; and to this animating fervour of the new and truer faith all proper weight should be given in a review of the causes which gave rise to the differences and disputes between the two ranks in the burghs; but that these differences arose from and were the natural result of the increasing wealth and respectability of the crafts rank, tinged no doubt with the religious element, can be abundantly proved, and is clearly evidenced in the cases of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Aberdeen.

In the first-mentioned city a decision was pronounced by King James VI. in the year 1583, directed chiefly to settle the differences between the guildry and the crafts as to the respective share to which each was entitled in the government of the town, and by which the craftsmen obtained a greater share in the administration of the burghal affairs than they had previously enjoyed. Yet, notwithstanding this deliverance,

the disputes between the merchants and craftsmen still continued, and gave rise to numerous legal proceedings, which were only terminated in 1730 by Decreet Arbitral in a Submission to the then Earl of Islay.

In Glasgow, if we may place reliance on Extracts from the Records of the Town Council, Merchants Guild, and Convenery of the Trades—the originals having unfortunately been lost—the evidences and illustration of this feeling and of its causes are no less striking. From these sources we learn that on the 8th of November, 1604, both the Merchants Rank or Guild and the Deacons of the several Crafts in the city met separately “to consult about and settle the controversies fallen out betwixt them byegone, and in tyme coming which may fall out, disquieting the members of the whole body and common well of the burgh;” and consequent upon these meetings the submission was entered into between Commissioners from the two ranks, resulting in what is termed the “Letter of Guildry” in 1605, which proceeds on the narrative of “the great hurt, interest, damage, loss, and skaith the hail common well of the burgh and city of Glasgow these many years bygone have sustained by mutual controversies and civil discords among the freemen and burgesses, indwellers within the same, anent their privileges, places, ranks, and prerogatives.” In further corroboration reference may be made to the Letter by King James I. of England, dated 28th November, 1606, given in this volume, the original of which is still extant, wherein His Majesty expressly states his understanding of “the chief ground of your differences in that cittie to be a question amongst equallitie of merchants and crafts in the government of the town.”

And in Aberdeen these disputes commenced so early as the year 1555, when the craftsmen began to assume privileges, to form combinations, and to set themselves in violent opposition to the authority of the magistrates of the town. These disorders, it appears, were for a time suppressed by a special writ from the Crown, commanding “all

seditionous craftsmen to submit to the authority of their magistrates;” * but were again commenced in 1579. In 1587 the differences between the two ranks were submitted to arbitration, the decree following upon which, titled the “Common Indenture” of the town, is of similar purport to the Letter of Guildry of Glasgow.

Though the difference between the merchants and craftsmen was not originally well defined, yet no sooner does their distinctive character become clearly recognizable than we notice the superior importance conceded to the former. By an Act of King James III., passed in the year 1466, ratifying certain regulations which had been previously proposed by the Convention of Royal Burghs “for the gude of merchandis and profite of the realme,” “it is statut and ordained yat na man of craft use merchandise be himself, his factours, or servands, bot gif he leife and renunce his craft but colour or dissimulacion.” † And again, in the year 1487 the exclusive privileges of the Merchant Guild are protected from encroachment or interference by the other class of burghesses by an enactment of the same king, “that ye Act of Plment touching the craftsme usand and dealand w^t mchandis be put to executioun, swa y^t he y^t is a craftsma, our forbere his mchandis or ellis renunce his craft, but any dissimulacion or color, und ye pai of eschete of ye merchandis yat he usis occupyand his craft”; ‡ and a variety of other protective statutes show the favour in which the merchant rank was held by the legislature of the time.

While such was the spirit of the early legislation in regard to commercial privileges, clearly indicating that whatever political influence existed, rested with the merchant rank, it is interesting to observe its contrast with the legislative enactments of the same period regarding the craftsmen, which were almost entirely directed to guard

* Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen, Vol. I., p. 149, *et seq.*

† Acts of Scots Parl., 1466, cap. 2, Thomson's Ed.

‡ *Ibid.*, 1487, cap. 13, Thomson's Ed.

the public and the merchants against imposition on the part of the craftsmen, either from insufficient workmanship or from the exaction of exorbitant prices.

As illustrative of these enactments it may be sufficient to cite the Act of King James I. "Anent untrew men of crafts,"* requiring that in every town "of ilk sindry craft usyt y'in yar sall be chosyn a wyss man of yar craft be the layff of that craft, and be ye counsall of ye officairis of the towne, ye quhilk sall be haldyn dekyn, or maisterman owre ye layff for ye tyme till him assignyt, till assay and gowern all werkis yat beis made be ye werkmen of his craft, swa yat ye kingis liegis be nocht defraudyt and scathyt in tyme to cum, as yai have been in tyme byegane thro untrew men of craftis;" and from among a number of stringent statutes passed to regulate the prices of commodities, to refer to the Acts of King James V. in the years 1535 and 1540,† the latter of which, proceeding on the narrative that it is "hevely murmurit that all craftismen, and specialie w'in burrowis, usis sic extorsionis upoun utheris our Soverane Lordis liegis," most forcibly denounces such practices as "contrar the comouneweill, and in grett hurt, prejudice, dampnage, and scaith to all the liegis of this realme."

The jealousy, however, between the two ranks gradually subsided as their differences came to be adjusted, and it was ultimately completely removed by the recognition of the crafts associations as constituent but distinct and subordinate corporations in the burghs, entitled to regulate their own affairs, and to enforce their own peculiar rights and privileges.

The privileges, duties, and powers of Guildry associations, as forming part of the constituency in the burgh corporation about the commencement of the seventeenth century, may be gathered from the terms of the many Acts of Parliament concerning them. They still continued to enjoy the

* Acts of Scots Parl., 1424, cap. 17.

† *Ibid.*, 1535, cap. 43, and 1540, cap. 30.

privileges indicated in the *Assisa Regis Willelmi*, "Anent ye libertie of ye merchandis gilde" before referred to. The statute of the same king, "Of buying and selling of merchandise,"* which enacted "yat na prelat, nor kirkman, erl, baron, or secular person sall presume to by woll, skynnis, hydis, or sic lik merchandise, bot yat yai sall sell ye samyn to merchandis of burghis wythin quhais schirefdom and liberte ye awnaris sellaris of ya merchandises dois duell, and yat ye merchandises foresaid, and all oyer merchandises, sall be presentit at ye mercat and mercat croce of burghis, and yar at ye lest sal be preofferit to ye merchandis of ye burgh effectuouslie without fraud or gyle;" and also the Act of King William, "Of Strangear Merchandis,"† regulating their trafficking with the burghs, all remained in force, and very clearly defined the exclusive privileges of the Guildry.

As traders, many injunctions were imposed on the brethren of the Guild with regard to the particular commodities it behoved them to import for the good of the kingdom or community, and of these the statutes of King James I., "Of merchandis passand oure ye see,"‡ and "Anent harnes and armouris to brocht hame be merchandis,"§ afford a good illustration, and are significant of the state of the times.

Their duties as Charitable Institutions are pointed out by the Statutes of the Guild, "off hym yat fallis cruky^t in ye gilde;" and by the enactment that, "gif ony of ye breder of gilde fall in pouerte, ye breder of ye gilde sal helpe him of gudis of ye gilde, or yai sal mak a colect throu ye communitie of ye toun to ye soume of x.x.s., and gif he dissess yai sal ger him be erdyt."

And their judicial powers may be gathered from the Act of King James VI., "Concerning the deane of gildis jurisdictioun in burrowis,"

* Acts of Scots Parl., 1209, cap. 40, Thomson's Ed.

† *Ibid.*, 1209, cap. 41.

‡ *Ibid.*, 1424, cap. 16, Thomson's Ed.

§ *Ibid.*, 1425, cap. 2.

|| *Ibid.*, *Fragmenta Collecta*, ii.

which narrates "how necessar and expedient it is that the power and jurisdiction of ye deane of guild and their counsaill within burgh be approvit and allowit as it is now usit in ye toun of Edinburgh, qlk is to the greit furtherance of justice to o' soverane lords leigis in all mattis and actionis concerning mchandis, betwixt mchand and mchand, and mchand and mariner, qlk actionis aucht not nor sud not byd delay, bot be exped and decernit be the deane of gild and his counsaill sumarlie as men chosin and appointit zeirle be ye counsaill of ye burgh maist apt and able to judge and decerne in all actionis concerning merchandis. Quhairfoir ratifies and confermis the jugement of the deane of gild and his counsaill in all actionis concerning mchandis, according to the lovable forme of jugement in all the guid tounis of france and flanderis, quhair burses ar erected and constitute, and speallie in paris, rowen, burdeaulx, and rochell."* The powers here referred to, as exercised by the Dean of Guild and his Council in Edinburgh, were decided by the Court of Session to be those of a separate Court *in suo genere*, and not subordinate to any other Court in the burgh.

Such is a brief narrative respecting Guilds in Scotland to the period when, as regards the Merchant Guild of Glasgow, a comparatively well-ascertained epoch in its history is opened by the Letter of Guildry.

* Acts of Scots Parl., 1593, cap. 38.

THE GUILDRY OF GLASGOW.

PREVIOUS to the Letter of Guildry in 1605 there is no authentic record of the Merchants Guild in Glasgow existing as a constituent part of the incorporation of the town. That there were merchant traders, or "venturers," in Glasgow of a rank superior to the ordinary tradesmen of the burgh, in the end of the fourteenth and beginning of the fifteenth century, can readily be established; and it may be presumed that the port which in the year 1546 could furnish a privateer whose destruction of the merchant shipping of England elicited the special notice of the Privy Council of the kingdom was capable of producing at an earlier period many other vessels for the more general pursuits of commerce. Further, that the position of the merchants of Glasgow in these early times was distinguished from that of the craftsmen, may be gathered from the Records of the Burgh, where, in 1556, we find different persons specially appointed as "Stentaris for the Merchants," from those nominated for the crafts "for ingathering of the tax laithlie devisit to be tane of the burrowes."

In the end of the sixteenth and commencement of the seventeenth century we also find notices of the Merchants Hospital as an existing institution. By the Letter of Guildry, the Dean of Guild was empowered "to convene the haill merchants of Glasgow for ordering their Hospitall;" and a part of the freedom fine of each Guild brother was appropriated "for the good of the hospitall of his calling." Of the precise date of the origin of this hospital there is unfortunately no evidence. In the year 1602, however, as appears from the papers of the House, John Muir, skipper, burgess of Glasgow, on the narrative of "ye louve y^t I beir to godis glorie and to ye poore wⁱⁿ ye toun and

citie of Glasgow, pn^t and to cum, quha must pray to God for me my preservacioun during my lyftym, and my successors after me" executed a deed of mortification, by which he dedicated a ground annual of forty shillings yearly, payable out of property in the Bridgegate "to ye poor md^s (merchants) y^t feirs god wⁱn ye citie to be stallit in ye almous Hous biggit in ye Briggait of Glasgow." The House here referred to was unquestionably the Merchants Hospital, as the Trades Hospital or Alms House, which was originally the manse of the Rector of Morebottle, one of the Prebendaries in the Archbishoprick of Glasgow, was situated in the "Kirkgate." Prior to this time, as is evidenced by an existing Inventory of Feu-duties belonging to the Merchants Hospital in 1594, there had been grants conferred for its proper maintenance and the support of the poor therein; but respecting these grants further information does not now exist. We find, however, shortly after that time, as commerce and mercantile adventure progressed, several grants being made in favour of "the Maister of the Merchants Hospitall for the use of their poor," and as, from the preamble of the first "Gold" or Guild Book, it appears that the fabric of the Hospital was in a decaying condition in 1659, and in need of "re-edifying," we are enabled, keeping in view the solidity of our ancient masonry, to form some conjecture of the probable date at which the Hospital was built.

These notices of the merchant rank, and of the existence of a hospital as their separate property, amply prove that there must previously have been a certain degree of incorporation or united action among the merchants of the city; and, judging from their number—no less than two hundred and fourteen "Merchandis and thair assisteris" being enumerated in the Act Book of the Dean of Guild Court in 1605,* and from the superior position and importance accorded to them in the Letter of Guildry—it may safely be inferred that the Merchants

* Minutes of Dean of Guild Court, February, 1605.

Guild did in reality exist as an institution, or as a distinct section of the community in Glasgow at a period of considerably remote antiquity.

The hospital before referred to, and as “re-edified,” was the old Merchants House in the Bridgegate—the Steeple of which is still the property of the Institution, though now placed under the control of the magistrates of the city in respect of their keeping its clock in repair. This building was erected after designs by Sir William Bruce of Kinross, afterwards architect to King Charles II., and is thus described by M’Ure, in his History of Glasgow,—“This magnificent structure stands in the bridge-street; it was re-built in a most stately manner in the year 1659, Sir John Bell, late provost, being then dean of gild. It is of length from east to west seventy-two foot, the steeple thereof is of height one hundred and sixty-four foot, the foundation is twenty foot square; it hath three battlements of curious architecture above one another, and a curious clock of molten brass, the spire whereof is mounted with a ship of copper, finely gilded, in place of a weathercock. The entry to the hall is very fine and splendid; above the top thereof are three old men resembling the decayed members of the merchant rank, and a ship with full sails, with the arms of the city, all purely cut out of freestone, and well illuminated with the inscription after-mentioned finely gilded.

ΑΠΟΕΜΠΙΟΔΟΞΕΙΟΝ hoc, civitatis Glasguanæ mercatorum, pia liberalitate et impensis fundatum, Æræ vulgaris cειοει. Denuo munificentia reædificatum, auctum, et ornatum est cειοειclix.

Mutuat Jehovahæ, qui largitur pauperi;

Et retributionem illius reddet ei.

“The gild-hall, which comprehends the breadth and length of the house, is beautified with the gilded broads, names, designations, and sums mortified for the use of the poor old members of the merchant rank, by such charitable persons as did mortify the same, whose number is persons; likewise a large written broad, with scripture

directions how to buy and sell with a safe conscience;* together with the effigies in full length of the deceast John Aird, late provost of Glasgow, and late dean of gild, and of Robert Saunders, of Auldhouse, printer in Glasgow, both in full length, with the effigies of the deceast James Govan, Thomas Peter, and Thomas Thomson, all of them being late dean of gilds, great benefactors to the poor. The hall is illuminated with fourteen chess windows, together with the apartment for the dwellings of four poor old men. The steeple hath a stately bell, being ten foot in circumference, which rings for the behoove of the churches, meeting of the Merchants House; and hath likewise a large flower garden, fenc'd about on the east, south, and west with a strong stone wall of nine foot high; on the north side it is fenced with the house side wall: this garden is of length two hundred and one foot, and in breadth seventy-two foot."

The above inscription given by M'Ure tends to throw some light upon the question of the date of the erection of the first or original Merchants Hall, the first date in the inscription being probably intended as a representation of the Roman numerals for 1501, while the latter—susceptible of a similar interpretation—is stated by M'Ure to represent the year 1659. There may be some difficulty in the right reading of the Scottish-Greek dialect of this inscription, or doubts whether it has been correctly transcribed by M'Ure; but such as it is, it affords reasonable grounds for the inference that for some time previously there had existed in Glasgow a Society or Fraternity of Merchants sufficiently important and wealthy to erect, in the year 1501, a Docheion or Hall, for the discussion of questions of difficulty, or matters affecting their interests, and where they might afford shelter and occasionally distribute relief to their brethren in distress.

* Appendix.



Maclure & Montrosson 1871

OLD MERCHANTS' HALL & STEEPLE IN BRIDGEGATE.

CONSTITUTION.

As the Letter of Guildry is the earliest record of the constitution and regulations of the Merchants House, it is proper to notice its leading provisions. Here, however, it may be mentioned that the Letter of Guildry was not an original Act of Incorporation, but was a simple decision or decree arbitral, settling questions or disputes previously existing between the merchants and craftsmen of the city. The original of the Letter has long ago been amissing, and it is a somewhat curious fact that not only the Minutes of the Merchants House, but also the Volume of the Minutes of the Town Council of Glasgow, in which the Letter of Guildry is stated to be recorded, and the Minutes of the Trades House, are all now awanting. The Letter of Guildry was however ratified by Parliament in 1672, as were also many of our municipal and other rights which had been lost, or whose validity was supposed to have been affected by the previous civil wars.

Of the fifty-four articles or clauses into which the Letter of Guildry is divided, the first thirty-nine relate to the Merchants Rank, and are briefly as follows:—

ARTICLE

1. Which provides that the Dean of Guild shall be “a Merchant, and a Merchant Sailor and Merchant Venturer, and of the rank of Merchant,” and points out by whom he is to be chosen.
2. Prescribes the mode of the Dean of Guild’s election.
3. Enacts the constitution of the Dean of Guild Court and Council, and prescribes the method of their election.
4. Refers to their meetings, and to the fines incurred by absenting members.
5. Makes provision for supplying the place of the Dean of Guild in his absence, as also for the absence of members of his Council.

6. Declares the Dean of Guild to be a Councillor of the Town, and appoints him "to have a principal key of the Towns Charter Chest in keeping."
7. Confers a summary jurisdiction on the Dean of Guild and his Council or Court, and empowers them to elect a Clerk yearly.
8. Prohibits Procurators from speaking before the Court; the practice in this respect being now entirely changed.
- 9, 10, 11, and 12. Define the jurisdiction of the Dean of Guild and his Council, and the procedure to be adopted in actions before their Court.
13. Gives a limited power of taxation for specified purposes.
14. Enacts the terms on which all burgesses within town are to pass Gild brother.
15. Provides for the entry of Gild brother's sons and the trial and enrollment in the Dean of Guild's books "of infamous and debauched persons, not worthy of the benefit of Gild brother."
16. Provides for the entry of freemen burgesses who marry the daughters of Gild brethren.
17. Extends the benefit of the Guildry to the children of burgesses "dead within these ten years."
18. Relates to the privileges of burgesses widows during their widowhood.
19. Relates to the apprentices of Gild brothers, their entry to the Guild, and the inducements to marry their masters daughters.
20. Relates to the entry of "men out of town."
21. Fixes the entry-money to be charged from persons entering as burgesses, gratis.
22. Prescribes the distribution of the entry-monies received from

23. Imposes certain trade restrictions on Gild brethren who are not burgesses.
24. Imposes corresponding restrictions on burgesses who are not Gild brothers.
25. Relates to "Cremers;" or, Hucksters.
26. Prohibits burgesses and Gild brothers from "buying with other men's money under colour and pretence that it is their own."
27. Also relates to Cremers.
28. Imposes restrictions on "unfreemen."
- 29 and 30. Relate to the entry of burgesses, *qua* such, and as to the payments to be exacted from them for the benefit of the merchants and crafts hospitals.
31. Gives power to the Dean of Guild and his Council to make bye-laws, to be approved of by the Town Council, and also to impose fines and penalties.
32. Provides for the application of these fines.
33. Authorizes the election of a Treasurer or Collector.
34. Authorizes the election of an Officer.
35. Empowers the Dean of Guild to "convene the haill merchants and their assistants for ordering their Hospital."
36. Divides "the annuals of the back almous house pertaining to the town behind the Bishop's hospital equally betwixt the merchants and crafts hospital."
37. Empowers the Dean of Guild and his Council to elect yearly "a common Metster of woollen cloth," and prescribes his duties and the fees chargeable by him.
38. Requires that all future Acts and Statutes made by the Dean of Guild and his Council shall be ratified by the Provost, Bailies, and Council of the town, and prescribes the mode of ratification; and
39. Appoints Matthew Turnbull first Dean of Guild.

The remaining clauses of the Letter of Guildry define the rights of the Incorporation of Maltmen and Mealmen of Glasgow, also of the different Crafts Incorporations now together forming the Trades House, and do not therefore here require to be noticed.

Under the constitution enacted by these provisions, which continued in force and unaltered till 1747, there was no restriction on the admissibility of members, and the whole merchant rank, who were burgesses, composed the community of the Guildry. But a material alteration then took place in the regulations of the Merchants House and in its internal constitution. In that year the condition and state of the House, and the ways and means whereby the same might be augmented, being under consideration, it was resolved, in order "to encrease the stock for the maintenance of the poor," and to create a fund "for supporting and defending the just rights and privileges of the fair trader,"* that certain amendments should be made on the regulations of the Letter of Guildry, so far as concerned the Merchants House. Accordingly the following alterations were enacted by the House, and afterwards ratified by the Magistrates of the city, in terms of the provision to that effect, viz.:—

1st. That all "members or traders within the city, foreign or domestic, wholesale or retail, of a fair character," on payment of five shillings sterling, and on engaging to pay four shillings yearly to the collector, should be entitled to be enrolled "as the only members of the Merchants House."

2d. The provisions for the election of the Dean of Guild's Council, in Article 3 of the Letter of Guildry were superseded, and a new regulation enacted therefor.

3d. An enactment prescribing a new mode of electing the Dean of Guild, altering Article 2 of the Letter of Guildry, and also Article 1 thereof in so far as it required the Dean to be "a merchant sailor and

* Minutes of Merchants House, 23d April, 1747.

merchant venturer;" consequent upon which home traders became equally eligible with foreign traders for this distinction.

4th. A regulation for the appointment of the Lyners of the Dean of Guild Court of the merchant rank.

5th. A prohibition of members from voting in elections, or being elected to hold office, "who have not paid up their poor rates for the preceding year or years."

6th. A provision for the death or incapacity of the Dean of Guild during the currency of his office.

7th. A declaration that the whole clauses, rules, and articles contained in the Letter of Guildry not thereby altered should continue in full force. And

Lastly. A provision "that henceforth in time coming charities of all kinds in the disposal of the Merchants House (limited mortifications, *i. e.*, special endowments, excepted) shall be bestowed on such poor as have been entered members of the House, or their indigent widows or children, preferable to all other claimers whatever."

The entry-money and annual payment fixed by the first Article of these Regulations was in the year 1773 raised to £4 sterling of entry-money in full of all payments, and in 1791 to £10, 10s., at which sum it still remains.

These regulations, supplemented by certain additional enactments in the year 1754, providing for the yearly appointment of Committees, and for other details in the management of the affairs of the House continued without further alteration till after the passing of the Burgh Reform Act in 1833, when the House, following out the policy of municipal improvement, unanimously abrogated its ancient close constitution, substituting therefor an annual election of the Dean of Guild and Directors by the votes of all the matriculated members, and enacted a series of Regulations which remained unaltered till 1858, when, in consequence of the inconvenience and difficulty of carrying through

the elections under the articles relating to the election of the Dean of Guild and Directors, owing to the greatly increased number of the members of the House, the articles, so far as applicable to these elections, were repealed, and new provisions enacted in lieu thereof.

The following are the regulations of 1833, as altered in 1858, and which are at present the Bye-Laws of the Institution:—

I. That the distinction of Foreign and Home Traders, the power of nomination of twelve of his Council by the Dean of Guild, and the use of Leets in Elections, do henceforth cease.

II. That the Dean of Guild, and the whole Thirty-six Directors of the House, be, at the next and all future Elections, annually chosen by the whole matriculated members, in the following manner:—

III. That on the fourth Tuesday before the day fixed by the Burgh Reform Act for Scotland for the election of the Town Council (First Tuesday in November), the annual meeting of the whole matriculated members of the Merchants House shall be called by circulars to be issued, and by an advertisement in three or more of the newspapers published in Glasgow at least eight days previous to such meeting in the Merchants Hall, or such other suitable place in the City of Glasgow as may be fixed on by the Dean of Guild and Directors, at twelve o'clock noon, for the election of the Dean of Guild and Thirty-six Directors; and in the event of any difference of opinion, the Dean of Guild and Directors shall be chosen in succession by a majority of votes of the matriculated members present at such meeting; and in the event of an equality of votes, that the Chairman shall have his deliberative vote and a casting vote also.*

IV. The Dean of Guild shall be re-eligible a second year, but cannot hold that office for more than two years consecutively.

V. In case of the refusal to accept, or acceptance of any other office in the City Magistracy, or resignation, or death of the person so elected

* Enacted 9th November, 1858.

Dean of Guild, the Clerk of the House shall, on receiving authentic information of such refusal to accept, acceptance of other office, resignation, or death, forthwith call a meeting of the Directors, who shall give the necessary instructions to him, to publish as aforesaid, an advertisement of the vacancy, calling a meeting of the matriculated members on a day not earlier than seven, or later than fourteen days, in the usual place, at twelve o'clock noon, to elect a Dean of Guild to supply the vacancy, and according to the same forms as are hereby provided regarding the original nomination, and instant election, or, in case of a poll being demanded, adjourned meeting of election on the next Monday.

VI. That at such meetings for supplying vacancies of the office of Dean of Guild, the last Dean of Guild present shall preside; and in case no person who had held the office of Dean of Guild be present, the meeting shall elect a member to preside; and in all meetings whatever the Chairman shall have, besides his deliberative vote, a casting vote in case of equality.

VII. That in case of the refusal to accept, resignation, or death of a Director, the Clerk shall, by authority of the Dean of Guild, summon a special meeting of the other Directors, to fill up such vacancy till the next annual election.

VIII. That the Dean of Guild and Directors shall, on the next Wednesday immediately after their election, meet at two o'clock, to elect Lyners, Committees, Commissioners, Trustees, and Officers.

IX. That the stated meetings of the Directors shall be on the second Tuesday of the months of December, March, June, and September, respectively.

X. That it shall be imperative on the Dean of Guild to call special meetings of the Directors on a requisition by five Directors; and to call special meetings of the matriculated members on a requisition by twenty

members; such requisition shall always specify the object of such meetings, which shall also be specified in the notice or advertisement of such meeting.

XI. That the said Royal Burgh Reform Act having abolished the term "Merchant Magistrates," none under that description can now legally claim to be ex-officio Directors of the House.

XII. By the 23d section of the Burgh Reform Act it being provided, "that in any Burgh in which Trades Councillors or Merchant Councillors are or may be ex-officio Trustees or Directors of any such institutions or charities, the Convenery or Trades House, and the Guildry or Merchants House, in such Burghs, shall elect an equal number from their own bodies respectively, to be such Trustees or Directors, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding:" it seems to be due to the House, that they should not neglect the necessary means of asserting whatever privilege may be legally conferred by the above provision.

XIII. That all motions for new Regulations, or alterations of existing Regulations, affecting the constitution of the House, shall be made in writing, and if seconded shall lie on the table for consideration at a future meeting, after an interval of not less than four weeks; and notice of all such motions shall be given in the notice or advertisement of the meetings at which they are to be considered.

XIV. That no person who is receiving the charity of the House, shall vote or be eligible in any of the Elections of the House.

XV. That the quorum of the House shall be reduced from fifteen to eleven.

Under these Regulations the Dean of Guild and Directors now act, and conduct the administration of the ordinary affairs of the House through the Committees of their number whom they annually elect for the purpose.

The Committees so appointed are—

On Books, Revenues, and Pensions.
On the Cemetery, Lands, and Quarries.
On the Hutcheson Street and George Square Properties.
On the Auldhouse Mortification for Apprentice Fees, &c.
For procuring New Members.

The Council also elect Representatives to the following public Institutions, viz.:—

One Manager of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.
Two Managers of the Asylum for the Blind.
One Manager of the Lock Hospital.
One Director of the Lying-in-Hospital and Dispensary.
Three Managers of Stirling's Library.
Two Managers of the Royal Lunatic Asylum.
One Manager of the Convalescent Home.
Three Directors of the Buchanan Educational Institution.
Three Assessors on Coulter's Mortification for Premiums to Inventors.
Two Members of the River Clyde Trust.
Eight Commissioners of the Greenock Harbour.
And when the Trust shall come into operation, Two Managers of the School endowed under the Will of Michael M'Millan, late manufacturer in Glasgow.

JURISDICTION.

Subsequent to the year 1605, the Merchants House possessed not only the corporate and exclusive privileges before referred to as conferred on Guildries in general, but they also—with an admixture from the crafts rank—exercised the distinctive jurisdiction within the burgh conferred by the Acts of the Scottish Parliament, and repeated in Letter of Guildry. Further, in addition to its judiciary privileges, from

its earliest institution the House has exercised the functions of a charitable institution. We also find it vested with supervisory powers over the finances of the burgh of Glasgow, deliberating on other important municipal affairs, and on matters concerning trade and commerce, as well as expressing opinions on a variety of questions affecting the public and political interests of the country.

First, then, as respects the Judicatory of which the representatives from the Merchants House constituted the most important part.

DEAN OF GUILD COURT.

By the Letter of Guildry it was fixed that besides the Dean of Guild the Merchants House should contribute four of the eight members, or "Lyners," who, with the Dean of Guild, constituted the Court of that name, the other four Lyners being appointed to be chosen by the Deacon Convener and Trades House or crafts rank of the city. These eight Lyners, or "Birleymen," as they were termed in some Burghs, as in the Burgh of Barony of Gorbals, were the Burgh-law men, constituting for the Burgh a Court similar to what in England is known as the Grand Jury of the County. The Court was appointed to convene every Thursday "at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and oftener, as the necessity of the common affairs committed to their charge shall require;" and stringent penalties were enacted against absenting members. The Court now sits on alternate Thursdays. The Dean of Guild, or in his absence the Sub-Dean, presides, and the principal Town Clerk of the City acts as legal assessor. Formerly it was understood that the Dean of Guild was the sole judge, and that the Lyners of Court acted merely as his advisers; afterwards, however, a different practice obtained, and the judgment of the Court was determined by the majority of the members.

The following Excerpt from the Act Book of the Dean of Guild

Court in 1605 is interesting as showing the members who, of that date, constituted the court and their officials:—

“Gild brother ye dean of Gild, his counsall and clerk, &c.

MATHEW TRUMBLE, deane.

ROB^r ROWAT.

WILLIAME STIRLING.

JAMES BELL.

MR. PETER LOW.

ARCHIBALD FFAULIS.

JAMES BRAIDWOOD.

JHONE MUIR.

GEORGE MUIR.

ARCHIBALD HEIGAIT, Court Clerk of ye Bruct.

ARCHIBALD FFAULIS, Collector.

ANDREW BOWIE, Merchand, Officer.”

Matthew Turnbull, the Dean, and Rowat, Bell, Faulds, and John Muir, Lyners, being the representatives of the Merchants House; William Stirling, Mr. Peter Low—one of the three persons named in the Royal Charter constituting The Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in the year 1599, and representing the Crafts Incorporation of the Chirurgeons—Braidwood and George Muir being the Lyners chosen for the Trades House.

The procedure before the Dean of Guild Court is also prescribed by the Letter of Guildry, and its jurisdiction which originally was very extensive, is defined with considerable minuteness. The powers of judging in all actions betwixt merchant and merchant, and in matters of merchandise and other such like causes, which had been conferred by the Act of 1593, are specifically repeated in very similar terms, and penalties for their enforcement enacted. The Court had jurisdiction conferred on it in all questions of neighbourhood and lyming within the burgh, and was vested with authority “to oversee and reform the metts and measures, great and small, of all sorts, and to punish and unlay the transgressors as they shall think it expedient.” The Court was also empowered “to discharge, punish, and unlay all persons unfreemen within the burgh as they shall think fit.” And a further and most important power was given “to raise taxation on the Gild brethren

for the welfare and maintenance of their estate and help of the decayed Gild brethren, their wives, children, and servants, providing the same exceed not the sum of £100 (Scots) money at once upon the whole Gild brethren."

A Series of interesting Extracts from the Act or Sederunt Books of the Dean of Guild Court, intended not only to illustrate its jurisdiction and procedure, but also, so far, to supply the hiatus which occurs through the loss of the Records of the House from the date of the Letter of Guildry till 1676, is given in the Sequel. From these it would appear that regular and frequent meetings were held for the admission of entrants, the prosecution of "unfreemen," and for the settlement of questions of disputed boundaries and of alleged encroachment, when it was usual for the Dean and his Council to visit the ground and make a personal survey and inspection. The Court also exercised its jurisdiction in mercantile cases, though, excepting in so far as weights and measures, the primary basis of all trade, are concerned, this branch of their jurisdiction at a comparatively early period fell into disuse, much of the business being absorbed by the ordinary Court of the burgh, which Court, it is curious to observe, most strenuously, and with the concurrence of the Merchants House, asserted its rights in this respect, to the exclusion of the Court "of the Bayllie of the Regalitie and other incompetent, doubtful, forraign, or less proper jurisdictione." As respects the compulsory assessment for behoof of their estate, it does not appear that such a tax was ever levied on the members of the Merchants Guild; at least, no trace of it having been imposed appears from any documents of the House or of the Court now extant.

It is interesting to notice how closely the jurisdiction originally conferred on this Court of the Dean of Guild coincided with the functions exercised by the *Ædiles* of the people under the law of Rome, and it is also illustrative of the grand source from which the principle of much of our early Scottish legislation is derived. According to the best authorities,

the office of the ædiles was to take care of the city, its public buildings, theatres, baths, aqueducts, common sewers, and public roads, also of private buildings, lest they should become ruinous, and deform the city or occasion danger to passengers. They likewise had supervision over the markets and taverns, they inspected the provisions and commodities exposed for sale in the Forum, and broke unjust weights and measures. Their office was accounted honourable, and was always the primary step to greater dignities in the republic.

The existing jurisdiction of the Dean of Guild Court, or its functions as presently exercised, and the Ædile powers vested in the Dean of Guild, are detailed in the Police Act for Glasgow,* which statute, however, does not alter the previously existing powers and jurisdiction of the Dean of Guild, or the procedure before his Court with respect to processes of lining or questions of title or servitude. By this Act all new streets, within the district over which it extends, must be laid out under warrant and direction of the Dean of Guild, conformably to certain prescribed stipulations.† The Act also requires the Dean of Guild's authority to be obtained, and certain conditions to be fulfilled, before buildings can be erected or altered;‡ and in reference to this a power is given to the Dean of Guild under certain circumstances, which might with propriety be extended, to require a sale of the property for purposes of public improvement or advantage.§ Under this Act the Dean of Guild's sanction is required for the compulsory removal or repair of ruinous buildings from which danger may be apprehended.|| His power to grant jedges and warrants is also recognized in the Act, and rules are prescribed for its exercise.¶ Power to order, on the application of the Procurator Fiscal, the removal of obstructions or projections on the public streets,** to decide in

* 25 and 26 Vic., cap. 204.

† Clauses 295, 296, 297, and 298.

‡ Clauses 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, and 383.

§ Clauses 305 and 306.

|| Clauses 389, 390, and 391.

¶ Clause 392.

** Clause 308.

actions at the instance of the Master of Works of the City requiring the repair of common stairs, foot-pavements, windows, and such like matters;* and to interdict the discharge into public sewers of refuse causing noxious or offensive effluvia,† being all provided for in the Act: the procedure before the Court in questions arising under the Act being also distinctly prescribed.‡

With regard to those other powers which it will be seen from a perusal of the excerpted Minutes of the Court were previously exercised respecting Weights and Measures, and nuisances generally, these are now comprised under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Police Board of the City; the mercantile questions are decided in other Courts, and the powers formerly competent for the prosecution of “unfreemen” have been done away with by the Act abolishing the exclusive privileges of trading in Burghs in Scotland.§

DEAN OF GUILD.

The office of the Lord Dean of Guild of Glasgow is inferior in dignity and importance only to that of the Lord Provost within the City. By the Letter of Guildry it was required that “the Dean of Guild shall be always a Merchant, and a Merchant Sailor and Merchant Venturer.”|| Consequent upon the Regulations of 1747, home traders became equally eligible for the office, and now the distinction between the two classes has been completely abolished. The Letter of Guildry further prescribed that “the Dean of Guild shall be chosen yearly by the Provost, Bailies, Council, and Deacons of the Burgh in time coming, and that fifteen days after the Bailies of the Burgh are chosen”¶ out of a leet of three, of whom the Dean bearing office required to be one, nominated by himself, with advice of twenty-four persons of

* Clauses 325, 327, 328, 329, and 330.

† Clause 345.

‡ Clause 281.

§ 9 Vic., cap. 17.

|| Art. 1.

¶ Ibid.

the Merchant rank.* This practice was altered by the Regulations of 1747, and a complete change effected, the Dean of Guild, along with the Directors, being appointed in future to be annually elected by the votes of the whole matriculated Members of the House. By courtesy the Dean of Guild is usually re-elected for the second year, but by the Letter of Guildry it is enacted that he "shall not bear office above two years together;" and this rule has been almost invariably adhered to. As a matter of course, the Lord Dean, besides being the official head of the Dean of Guild Court, is President of all Meetings of the House and of its Directors, and he is also usually Convener of its different Committees. He is *ex officio* a Member of the Town Council of the City, not only under the provisions of the Letter of Guildry, but by the express enactment of the Municipal Reform Act. By the practice of the Town Council, he is usually nominated upon various important Committees; and besides the several Trusts which are essentially adjuncts to the Corporation of the City, and of which, as one of the Council, the Lord Dean of Guild is a Member, he is also *ex officio* a Member of the following public Trusts, viz.:—

Glasgow Bridge Trust.

Court Houses.

Cumbræ Light Trust; and being once qualified, he remains a Trustee.

Markets and Slaughter Houses.

Parks and Galleries Trust.

Commissioner of Police of the City.

Commissioner on the House of Refuge, under the Act for repressing

Juvenile Delinquency in the City.

Justice of the Peace for Lanarkshire.

Road Trusts, viz.:—

North and South Lanarkshire Turnpike Roads, and Bridge at
Cartland Craigs.

* Art. 2.

Lanarkshire Statute Labour Roads.
 Glasgow and Carlisle Turnpike Road.
 Evan Water Turnpike Road in Dumfriesshire.
 Inchbelly and Kirkintilloch Turnpike Roads.
 Shotts and Airdrie Turnpike Roads.
 Cambuslang and Muirkirk Turnpike Roads.
 Garscube Turnpike Road.
 Renfrewshire Turnpike Roads.
 Glasgow, Parkhouse, and Renfrew Turnpike Road.
 Renfrew and Greenock Turnpike Road.
 Glasgow and Three Mile House Turnpike Road.

Private Trusts, viz. :—

Patron of Hutcheson's Hospital and Trusts connected therewith.
 Patron of Robert Govan's Mortification.
 Patron on Daniel Baxter's Bursary at University.
 Patron on Zachary Boyd's Bursaries in Theology.
 Patron on Leadbetter's Bursary.
 Trustee on Coulter's Mortification.
 Trustee on Coulter's Mortification for Premiums to Inventors.
 Trustee on Mrs. Gibson's Mortification.
 Trustee on Hood's Calton School.
 Trustee on John Henderson's School, when the Trust emerges.
 Director of Buchanan's Institution.
 Director of George Wilson's Charity School.
 Manager of David M'Gregor Bequest (School in Calton).

A List of the Deans of Guild, from the date of the Letter of Guildry to the present time, with fac similes of what are believed to be their autographs, obtained principally from the Records and Documents in the possession of the House, is given in the sequel.

CHARITABLE FUNCTIONS.

Next, with regard to the Merchants House as a Charitable Institution.

REVENUES OF THE HOUSE.

The funds of the House, primarily applicable to the support of "decayed gild brethren, their wives, children, and servants," but by the Letter of Guildry made also applicable "to any other good or godly work which may tend to the advancing the common-well of the town,"* originally consisted of the entry-money of members and apprentices, a proportion of the "unlawes" or fines of the Court, and of freedom fines at the entries of merchant burgesses, fines for the refusal by members of the merchants rank to serve as magistrates or councillors of the burgh, the proceeds of the "mortcloths" or palls belonging to the House, and a moiety of the "bucket money" exacted from the burgesses, together with gratuities or donations, "Gold Book" subscriptions and mortifications, annual rents, or interest on money lent, and the rents of the heritable properties of which the House at an early period came to be possessed.

The revenue derived from freedom fines, and apprentice fees requires no special mention. With regard, however, to the "unlawes," it may not be irrelevant or uninteresting to state that the fines of the Dean of Guild Court, and the others before mentioned, were not the only amerciaments which at one time were vested in the Merchants House. By a curious Mortification, dated 3d October, 1682, John Bell, Provost, and Robert Corse, one of the Bailies of the Burgh of Glasgow, assigned to the Dean of Guild and his brethren of Council of the Merchant rank and their Collector for behoof of their poor "all and q'somever unlawes, fynes, and penalties, belonging to us, or aither of us, be the Lawes of this realm, as incurrit be the inhabitants of the said burgh,

* Art. 22.

or any of them, by disorderlie baptismentes, marriadges, keeping of hous or field conventicles, w'drawing from the publick ordinances, or be transgressing of any oyr penall Statuts." But though the suppression of conventicles was being vigorously prosecuted at the time, it does not appear that the revenues of the Merchants House received any accession by this Mortification.

The Mortcloths, as their name indicates, were palls, generally of velvet or other expensive material, for covering coffins on their way to the grave; and from the natural desire to pay an outward mark of respect to the dead, which at that time, owing to the great expense involved, could only in the general case be gratified by means of such mutual association, it can easily be understood how the different incorporations of the City came to be possessed of these palls, and to derive a considerable revenue from their hire to the members.

The Bucket Money was a payment of 8s. 4d. exacted from each entrant burgess, nominally as a contribution towards the expense of extinguishing fires within the burgh, and was divided equally between the Merchants and Trades Houses. It is presumable that these buckets, of which the custody was divided between the two Houses, were given out for use at the premises of any burgess on the occasion of a fire, for it does not appear from the Records of the Merchants House in what way they fulfilled the obligation which the payment to them of the moiety of these funds might be held to imply. In the Records, however, of the Town Council of the City we find it minuted on 28th December, 1668, that "the Magistratis and Counsell, taking to their consideratioune that suddane fyre ryse frequentlie in this place, to the great hurt and wrack of theis who suffers therby, and to the effect the samyne may be moir speidilie quenched heirefter quhen it happens to fall out: in regaird that the Merchand and Craftis hospitalls hes the benefit now of the haill buckit monye, they appoynt the said twa housses and their collectors to caus make ane

hundreth lether buckits, with all convenient diligence, for the effect foirsaid, and the buckit monye to run in the old channel;" and again, on 21st December, 1679, "the quhilk day appoynts the Deane of Gild and Convener to caus helpe the old buckits, and to mak ane hundreth and fyfte new ons; as also to caus mak some short leddirs." Further, from the increase and greater size of the City buildings, it would appear that the payment by no means relieved the burgesses from further burden in the case of fires, the Minute of 28th December, 1668, enacting "that everie heritor and uther responsable persone within the burgh caus mak & provyd ane sufficient lether buckit, and put their awine names therupon, and to have them in reddines at all occasiounes in their awine housses, and in tyme of suddane fyre (quhilk God avert) that they send out the said buckits with their ablest servands for quenching of the said fyre, and to carie water therewith; and the said buckits to be in reddines betwixt and the fair of Glasgow nixt, under the paine of twentie pundis monye, to be exactit off ilk contraveiner; and that intimatioun be maid heirop throw the toune be touk of drum." These rigorous provisions were no doubt enacted as a precaution against, and under fear of a repetition of the lamentable fire which, in 1652, destroyed the greater part of the High Street, Trongate, and Saltmarket. The Accounts Books of the House, however, do not show how far the above order was implemented, and the revenues derived from this source seem invariably to have been appropriated to the general purposes of the House till the year 1807, when the Merchants House gave up their share of these funds to the Commissioners of Police, whose province it then became to provide for the prevention and extinguishing of fires.

BENEFACTIONS TO THE HOUSE.

There is no record of the Benefactions to the Merchants House or Guildry previous to the commencement of the seventeenth century,

though undoubtedly such there must have been, as their Hospital, owing its existence to voluntary contributions, could not otherwise have existed. The earliest recorded Mortification is the Disposition, in 1602, by John Mure, to which allusion has been previously made. Since that date no Institution in Scotland can boast of a more constant recognition of its usefulness, or of more munificent donations in aid of its funds.

It may be sufficient to notice, in connection with the Charitable purposes of the House, such of the donations made during the early period of its history as are more particularly interesting from the celebrity of the donator or the comparative largeness of the gift; among the former may be mentioned that by the celebrated John Howison, minister of Cambuslang, who, in 1612, assigned to the Dean of Guild for himself, and on behalf of the Merchant rank of Glasgow, the sum of 500 merks; that of James Law, Archbishop of Glasgow, who, by his last Will and Testament, dated 6th July, 1632, also left a sum of 500 merks "to the Merchandis and Craftis Hospitall, equallie to be devydit betwix yam, to be imployit for the sustentatioun of y^r poor, present and to cum;" and that by the famous Zachary Boyd, "minister of Christ's Evangel at the Barony Kirk of Glasgow," who conveyed to the Merchants House, in 1635, under burden of his liferent, "the soume of ane thousand pounds money of Scotland." Among the latter may be mentioned the bequest of Patrick Bell, merchant in Glasgow, in 1641; those of Zacharias Zebbes, sugar boiler, in 1679; of John Craig, "that was in the toun of Irving," in 1694; of James Corbet, and John Napier, merchant, in 1703; and of John Luke of Claythorn, merchant in Glasgow, in 1731. Then again we find on more than one occasion the "Skippers and Mariners belonging to the Burgh" contributing to the funds of the House, in 1687, "for behoof of poor and decayed Merchants and Mariners, the sum of eightpence in the pund Scots of their wages," and in 1718, obliging themselves to retain

twopence in the pound sterling off the wages of all masters or seamen employed by them for the same object. Further, we find, in 1723, Alexander Fullartoun, "ane of the poor men in the hospitall," leaving a not inconsiderable fortune to the House. To these must of course be added those other and presently subsisting Mortifications as to which special directions were made by the Testators for the application and disposal of the property bequeathed. Among these last are Zachary Boyd's Bursary at the College, for which the College received the funds, and to which the House have the right of presenting a student of Divinity; John Craig's Bursary in Philosophy, to which the House also present; the Mortifications by John Graham of Dougaldston; James Govan of Hogganfield; Thomas Peters, Dean of Guild; Thomas Thomson, merchant; John Aird, Provost of Glasgow; Robert Sanders of Auldhouse; Donaldson's Club, Margaret Bell, Mary Ronald or Moll, James Spreul, and Charles Selkirk; and in recent times the munificent bequests of Mr. and Mrs. Speirs of Elderslie; Robert Baird of Auchmeden; James Buchanan; James Ewing of Strathleven; and the late Thomas Buchanan. A complete list of the whole of these Benefactions to the House for charitable, educational, and other purposes, from the earliest times to the present date, will be found in the sequel, where there is also given an Abstract of such of the Deeds of Mortification as contain special conditions and directions for the administration of the bequest.

In addition to the above, numerous other sums were subscribed at various times for specific purposes, such as for "re-edifying the fabric of the hospitall and building of an steiple;" a list of which will be found in the first volume of the Guild or "Gold Books," "begun ult Januarii Javi & fifty-nine (31st January, 1659) and continued." These are very interesting volumes, written on vellum, elaborately bound and gilt, and containing the subscriptions of most of the principal merchants in Glasgow at the time, bearing to be, as the preamble sets

forth, "under his hand, if he can wryt, or if not, ane Notar for him." The Magistrates of the City also contributed to the funds of the Merchants House for the re-building their Hospital; the Minute of the Town Council on this subject, of date 10th November, 1660, is interesting, and is as follows, "The said day, in answer to the supplicatioun given in be Frederik Hamiltone, Deane of Gild, for himselfe, and in name of the rest of the merchand rank, showing that they being of lait at the hearing of the comp^t of the Merchand Hospitall, and finding that ane guid part of the stok of the said Hospitall hes bein waired out on the building thereof, and that the voluntar contributioun gathered throw the merchands hes not answered according to the expectatioun thereof, and now the steiple of the said Hospitall is to be raised, quhilk will prove far more profitabill to the toune than to the Hospitall, and to lett it ly as it wes now being brought to such ane heicht as it is, it will be a shame and disgrace both to the toune and Hospitall; Quhilk being at lenth considerat be the saidis Magistratis and Counsell, they declared themselves all most willing for the help and advancement of the said work; but considering the toune's burdin they did all condescend and agric that quhat is restand in Jon Kerrs, Baillie, hand of his last excys comp^t, and what is restand in Ro^t. Andersounes hand of his last comp^t he made of the excys; as also what glenings can be gottin belonging to the toune, as what is restand undebursit of the buckit monye and the house in Evandaill, should be all taken and applyed for advancement of the said work: but upone this condition, that when the craftis sall have to doe thereafter for the building of their Hospitall they may have the lyk power conferred on them."

Further, we also find contributions "for defraying the chairge and expenss of building of the new hous latlie buildit at the corse;" a list of which is given in the Minute Book of the House, of date 25th October, 1683.

The subscriptions to the "Gold Book," though obtained in the first

instance for the special purposes above mentioned, were continued as a means of augmenting the general funds of the House, and were endeavoured to be made so far compulsory on the members that, whereas, in the preamble of the first Gold Book it was stated "that if it shall happen the contributors, or any of their relationes or friends, being of the merchant rank of this citie to be in distress, they may be first preferit to have supplie of the House as their necessitie shall require, and the ordour and custome of the House shall permit," it was afterwards enacted "that none be enrolled as the poor of the House but such who have signed the Gold Book, or their fathers or husbands."*

PROPERTIES.

As regards the management of their property, the House appears in early times to have lent considerable sums on Bond to various persons, the annual rents or interests on which seem by no means to have been regularly paid. The following is a list taken from the Account Book of 1660-61 :—

	Scots.
The Countess of Glenkairnes band,	133 6 8
Auchenbrecks band,	400 0 0
The toun of Glasgoves band,	2,000 0 0
The laird of Kaimes band,	466 13 4
Albert Neisbetts band,	428 0 0
W ^m . Cuningham of Carncurrans band,	400 0 0
Davies band,	666 13 4
Two Notts of W. Robertlands,	44 0 0
Ane band of haplands,	666 13 4
Ane band of duchells,	1,333 6 8
Ane band of James Maxwells,	666 13 4
Ane band of Kelburnes,	666 13 4
Ane band of haggis,	1,333 6 8
Ane band of William Andersouns,	1,000 0 0
Ane band of Patrick bryce, rests thereof,	348 6 0
Ane band of Neil M ^c Uire,	333 6 8
Ane band of hendrie Dunlop,	333 6 8

* Minutes of Merchants House, 19th April, 1723.

Ane band of Sir James Hamiltounes,	666	13	4
Ane band of Gilbert Adairs, for ane old mortcloth,	56	0	0

As respects the heritable property of which the House was possessed, the earliest acquisition appears to have been in 1629, when the House purchased from Alexander Thomsoun, "sone and air of umq^l Johne Thomsoun, touns clerk of Glasgow," "three aikeris of arrabill land or thairby, wit ye yaird and pertinents lyand within the territorie of the brughe in y^t croft callit Saint tenewis (St. Enoch's) croft;" apparently including subjects called "Cuninglaw," all of which were sold to the Magistrates in 1775, for payment by the City of a Ground Annual of £13 per annum, and duplication every nineteen years from Martinmas, 1789. The previous acquisitions by the House of heritable subjects seem principally to have been of feu-duties and ground annuals, unless indeed, of which there is some indirect evidence of an early date, the House held "poffles," or small portions of the Craig lands before their purchase of that property from Stewart of Mynto.

In the year 1650 the House acquired the greater portion of the lands of Easter and Wester Craigs from Sir Ludovic Stewart of Mynto, at the price of 23,250 merks, Scots (£1,291, 13s. 4d. Sterling). The lands of Wester Craigs originally belonged to "James Hamiltoun, Bischope of Argyll and Subdeane of ye Metropolitane Kirk of Glasgow," and were leased out by him in 1562, as the Tack bears, "for certane gratitudis, plesors, help and gude deiddis done to us be ane maist reverend fader in God John Archbishope of Saint And^t, and also for the sowme of ane thousand merkis usuall money of yis realme, actualzie payit and deliverit aforehand to us be ye said maist reverend fader, in our urgent neidcessitie, to our support in this trubblus tyme." Shortly afterwards the right to the lands became vested in Alexander Stewart, Tutor of Castlemilk, the Charter in whose favour by Queen Mary, in 1565, contains a curious enumeration of the feudal casualties

in which the vassals of these lands were liable. From Alexander Stewart the lands descended to his daughters, Margaret and Euphane Stewart, and after several transmissions became vested in Sir Matthew Stewart of Mynto, who had also acquired the adjacent property of Easter Craigs by a separate title, and by whose grandson, Sir Ludovic, both properties, as before mentioned, were conveyed to the Merchants House. A most interesting historical account of these lands, and of their proprietors, from the earliest period to the present time, written by the well-known learned archæologist of Glasgow, Mr. John Buchanan, Member of the Faculty of Procurators, is given in the sequel.

The next purchase by the Merchants House would appear to have been in 1673, from John Fleming of Coutstoune, Margaret Hill, and John Brysone, of the lands of "Over-Old-Gallowmuir," lying on the south-west, and adjoining the Easter and Wester Craigs, under the general name of which lands the whole subjects seem ever afterwards to have been known.

The House also became proprietors, by purchase from the College of Glasgow, in 1710, of three acres of land in Broomielaw Croft, which were sold in 1757 to Alexander Campbell, Merchant in Glasgow, for payment of a Ground Annual of £7 5s., with duplication every nineteen years from Martinmas, 1756; and they seem also to have been proprietors of other portions of Broomielaw, acquired prior to 1676 from Robert Maxwell, at the price of £1,100 Scots. How they became divested of these latter subjects does not appear from the records. It is possible, however, that their title may have been merely of a wadset right, which was subsequently redeemed by the debtor.

Further, in 1723, Provost John Aird mortified to the Merchants House various heritable subjects which belonged to him in Bridgegate Street, "in that part called the Goosedubbs."

In 1728, Robert Sanders, Printer in Glasgow, mortified to the

House "All and Haill his five merkland of old extent of Auldhouse, with the Manor place thereof, and sicklike, All and Haill the Mains of Kirkland of Eastwood, extending to ane $13\frac{1}{4}$ land of old extent," and which lands are now held of the House for a yearly feu-duty of £37, 10s. per annum.

Besides these properties, the House has at various times, but more particularly in the early part of the present century, made purchase of heritable subjects, amongst others the lands of Limmerfield, many "Malt Kilns," "Barns," and "Houses," one of which was "the Dean of Glasgow's Manse," another "the Manse of the Rector of the Parish Kirk of Glasgow," and which are now mostly comprehended within the precincts of the Necropolis. There has also, in comparatively recent times, been acquired by the House the valuable subjects now belonging to it in George Square, and the property in Hutcheson Street on which the present Merchant Hall is built.

The Necropolis, or Fir Park Cemetery, of the House, is principally part of the Wester Craigs lands, and is one of the most commanding and picturesque as well as beautiful burial places in the kingdom. A full account respecting this Cemetery, which was opened for interments in the year 1833, and of the "Bridge of Sighs," connecting it with the opposite side of the ravine of the Molendinar, to the east of which it is situated, will be found in the sequel; and reference may also be made to the Necropolis Glasguensis of the late Dr. Strang, to the Companion to the Necropolis, published in 1836, and to the very interesting Sketches of Glasgow written by Mr. James Pagan of the Herald Newspaper, for a description of this portion of the Heritable property of the House.

PENSIONERS.

The Funds of the House are for the most part annually distributed among the poor of the Merchants rank, in sums varying

according to the circumstances of the applicants. The amount of the Pension Roll, though gradually increasing, has fluctuated considerably at various times, as the revenues of the House have been flourishing, or the reverse. Among the earliest existing documents of the House is the following "Roll off the pensioners fra October 1648 to October 1649," which shows the average amount of the pensions at that time, and may afford some indication of the extent of the total roll, to which it was merely the addition for the year:—

Apud Glasgow penultimo die mensis Octob^{ris} Javy & ffourtie awcht Yeirs.

The qlk day convenit in ye merchant hospitall, William Dunlope, present Deane off Gild, and his Counsell, Quha for ye maist pairt wer present. The Persounes following ar appoyntit as pensioners of ye said hospitall for ye Yeir nixt following, and ordanes Cuthbert Campbell pnt Collector, to mak pay^t to yame quarterlie of ye soumes following:—

Imprimis to jonnet Bell,	.	.	.	.	iiii.l
Item to Johne Patersoune,	.	.	.	.	x.s
Item to Jonnet Forsythe,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to Williame Stirling,	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Jonnet Smythe,	.	.	.	.	i.l x.s
Item to Barbara Barnes,	.	.	.	.	v.l
Item to Matthew Moir,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to Jonnet Flemyng,	.	.	.	.	i.l
Item to Margaret Turnebull,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to Jonnet Harper,	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Marioune ffairie,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to Isobel Clerk,	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Robert Patersoune,	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Marioun M'Callum,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to Jeannie Dallgleis,	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Christiane Maxwell,	.	.	.	.	iii.l vi.s viii.d
Item to Christiane Herbertsoune,	.	.	.	.	ii.l
Item to George Alex ^r,	.	.	.	.	ii.l

Item to Joseffe ffischer,	.	.	.	.	.	v.l
Item to Margaret Lowgie,	.	.	.	.	.	iii.l
Item to Jonnet Selkrige,	.	.	.	.	.	iv.l
Item to Jonnet Struthers,	.	.	.	.	.	v.l
Item to Heillene Young,	.	.	.	.	.	iiii.l
Item to Jonnet Locke,	.	.	.	.	.	xxx.s

Extract by me Gilbert Marschell, Clerk to ye said Vocaⁿune.

Sic. subr. Gilbert Marschell.

The whole amounting in Scots money to . . . £66 16 8

In his sketch of the House Mr. Ewing states that "prior to the year 1723 there were only five old men on the roll, at £100 Scots each. There were besides a number of small sums bestowed quarterly, none of which exceeded forty shillings per annum. In 1723 the number of Pensioners was extended to seven, and was afterwards augmented as the funds increased. After the year 1770 a more liberal allowance was made corresponding to the urgency of the case, to the station which had been previously held by the Pensioner, and to the character which had been regularly maintained." The Pensioners so paid were formerly denominated in the Books of the House, though the distinction does not now exist, as being on the "old Foundation," to distinguish them from those on the "new Foundation," who were paid out of a sum of £60, ordered by Minute of 23d April, 1754, to be annually appropriated for the payment of pensions of £100 Scots each to three poor men of the Merchant rank, £60 Scots each to two other poor men of the same rank, and to three Merchants' Widows £100 Scots each, all to be qualified as prescribed in the Minute.

Prior to the period referred to by Mr. Ewing, it appears from the Minutes of the House that, owing to a diminished revenue, the Dean of Guild and his Council, finding their disbursements exceeding

their yearly income by about £500 Scots, "for preventing yrof in the meantime, till it pleas God to encreass the House Stocke," were necessitated "to deface and retract ane just third p^t of all monthly and qrtely pensiones dew out of the House to q'soever persouns."* Gradually, however, as prosperity returned, the pensions were encreased to the number and amount mentioned by Mr. Ewing.

Besides payment to their regular Pensioners, part of the Funds of the House from very ancient times has been in use to be distributed to indigent persons who were not strictly qualified to become Pensioners, in the form of precepts or gratuities, either by order of the House, under the recommendation of the annual Committee, or by order of the Dean of Guild alone.

Further, in the year 1699, the House "unanimously resolved that the haill poor belonging to the Towne be maintained:" a most notable resolution, which the House has on many occasions carried into practical effect, and which ultimately gave rise to the institution of the Town's Hospital in the year 1733, to which Institution the House originally contributed £60 per annum. In 1754 their subscription was increased to £100; and in 1770, to £110, at which amount it remained till the contribution was finally discontinued.

ACCOUNT BOOKS.

The most satisfactory information respecting the material progress of the House during the earlier period of its history is to be gathered from the Account Books of the Collectors, from which also there may be obtained a succinct record of many facts of local interest and importance, and many curious instances illustrative of the proceedings and customs of the Citizens of Glasgow during the period over which the Accounts extend. The earliest existing Account Book is one for

* Minutes of Merchants House, 5th August, 1678.

the year 1624; the manuscript is, however, so indistinct from age, and probably also from damp, and is written with so many apparent contractions, as to be almost illegible. The following are the headings and totals of the different branches of the Account, showing the amount of the stock in Scotch money, and the revenues of the House at that period:—

The Compt of my intromissone with the anells and cassualeiteis of the Merchads Hospital, qch ver (were) re^d (received) betx (betwixt), and the 27 October, 1624.

Item in the first I re, restad auhit (received resting owed) me to them quhan I gave up my compt,	£216 06 04
Mair for principal sums and annual rents is	2,868 08 11
The compt of the prentaise qa ver bukit is	37 08 08
The compt of the Burgess and Gilbrother that entrit fra the 7 October, 1624, is	42 02 00
The compt of the mortclathe vith the contriutione thereof fra the 7 October, 1624, is	82 01 09
The compt of the buckit mney receavit be me fra the 7 October, 1624, is	35 13 00
The compt of Grde (ground) anells receavit be me fra the 7 October, 1624,	22 05 02
	<u>£3,304 05 10</u>
Fallois my debursments (amounting in cumulo to),	2,957 09 04
And I have receavit,	3,304 05 10
Swa I have in my chardge,	<u>346 16 06</u>

The next Account Book of the House which appears to be now in existence is that for the year 1660-61, since which time, with the exception of a few years, the series is complete to the present date. From the year 1676 to 1709 these accounts were very regularly transcribed for preservation into the Sederunt Books of the House,

the earliest existing volume of which contains nearly all the Accounts for the period between these years; so that in many instances where the Account Books themselves have gone amissing, their loss can be supplied from this source. The Accounts seem to have been carefully examined and audited, and are mostly certified by the Clerk of the House as having been found correct and duly vouched. From the first Account of this series, which is titled "Charg and Intromissioun and Discharg and Exoneratioun by Ordinar and Extraordinar depursements off John Louk, with the Comoun goods belonging to the Merchants hospitall in Glasgow, from November, 1660, to November, 1661," and is docquetted by "R. Goveane," of date 25th October, 1661, it appears that the Charge against the Collector, and his Discharge, in Scotch money, stood as is shown in the following classified abbreviate:—

CHARGE.

Principal sums contained in Bonds due to the			
House by sundries,	.	.	£11,899 0 0
James Bell's Mortification,	.	.	1,272 0 0
Balance resting in hands of Andrew Gibsoun,			
preceding Collectour, at the maiking of his			
comp ^t , q ^t of thir was 12 ryalls, at 56/ the			
peace, is	.	.	337 4 6

Revenue, viz :—

Interest on Bonds,	.	.	£1,639 10 4	
Land Rents,	.	.	1,221 15 0	
Ground Annuals,	.	.	13 6 8	
Mortclothes,	.	.	311 7 0	
Bucket money,	.	.	1,838 13 4	
Burgess & Gildbrother fines,	.	.	1,226 7 4	
Apprentice fees,	.	.	33 6 8	
				6,284 6 4
				£19,792 10 10

DISCHARGE.

Bonds due to the House by sundries and unpaid,	£11,899	0	0
James Bell's Mortification,	1,308	0	0

Arrears, viz :—

Interest on Bonds,	£597	3	8
Landrents,	521	0	0
Gildbrother fines,	700	0	0
		1,818	3 8

Expenditure, viz :—

Ordinar and Extraordinar de-			
pursements,	329	7	2
Quarterly Pensions, £556	0	0	
Monthly Pensions,	68	8	0
	624	8	0
Supplicants by			
Warrant,	204	2	0
	828	10	0
	1,157	17	2
Towards building of Hospitall,	3,370	10	10
		4,528	8 0
Balance in Collector's hands,		238	19 2
		£19,792	10 10

No regular Stock account showing the particulars and value of the Heritable and other property of the House was kept at that time, but a sufficient idea of this may be formed from the above, and also from the abstracted statement of the Collector's accounts of Charge and Discharge for the year 1676, given in the excerpted Minutes of the House,* which is further interesting as showing the very numerous small ground annuals of which the House was then possessed mostly acquired by donation, and in reference to which there appears in

* Minutes of Merchants House, 31st October, 1676.

the Records of the House frequent minutes ordering their sale at prices varying from twenty to twenty-five years' purchase.

It will be observed, in contrasting the Account here referred to with that before given for the year 1660-61, that instead of increasing, the revenues of the Incorporation had diminished. This no doubt arose from the distracted nature of the times, many illustrative instances of which will be found in the Minutes of the House.

In 1715 it was ordered "that ye method of keeping of ye books be altered, and the books be kept for ye future in ye regular way of debite and credite," meaning thereby the usual Mercantile form of Double Entry, with Profit and Loss and Balance Accounts showing the Stock and its annual increase or diminution. A regular set of Account Books was accordingly commenced in Sterling money, and the following is a transcript of the first entry of the Journal showing the whole Stock of the House at that time.

"In the name of God, Amen.—An Inventory of ye Merchants House of Glasgow belonging to the poor of that rank, taken on the first November, 1715:—

Outfield lands and acres, rental, £109 10 11½, valued at			
20 years' purchase,	£2,190	18	10
Houses and tenements called the Merchants House,			
rental, £42, valued at 12 years' purchase,	504	0	0
Money at interest,	£1,977	6	6½
Bygone rents of lands,	68	19	10
Do. of houses,	35	5	0
	2,081	11	4½
Ground Annuals, £5, 11s. 8d., valued at 14 years' purchase,	78	3	4
Bygone Ground Annuals,	13	9	5½
Gold Book Subscriptions,	38	19	9
Cash on hand,	162	11	7½
Mortcloths, 10,	60	0	0
	£5,129	14	4½

Brought forward,				£5,129	14	4½
Deduct Mortifications, the interest being yearly paid according to destination :—						
Govan's,	.	.	.	£627	1	8
Peter's,	.	.	.	166	13	4
Fullarton's,	.	.	.	27	15	6¼
					821	10 6¼
Free Stock,	.	.	.	£4,308	3	10½

A statement showing the progressive increase in the stock of the House from £2,000, 15s. 11d. sterling, in the year 1661, to £55,006, 16s. 8d., exclusive of special mortifications amounting to £19,361, 3s., and of the separate account for the Necropolis, to which sum, by careful management and from numerous handsome benefactions, the stock has accumulated at the present date, as also an abstract of the Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending in August, 1865, will be found in the sequel.

MINUTE BOOKS.

The Minute Books of the Merchants House prior to the year 1676 are all amissing, and it appears from the Records of the House in 1786 that they had been lost previous to that date. The earliest existing volume was supposed by Mr. Ewing to be altogether confined to transcripts of the Collector's Accounts and Statements of the revenue and expenditure of the House. In this, however, Mr. Ewing had probably been misinformed, as there are numerous interesting minutes recorded in this volume, many of which will be found in the sequel. The Minute Books which are still extant are in excellent preservation; and though in the early period there are frequent and peculiar orthographical contractions, the writing is on the whole distinct and legible. These Minutes contain a mass of interesting

contemporary information respecting the management of the internal or domestic affairs of the House, and the former exercise of its important supervisory functions connected with the financial affairs of the Burgh: a supervision, it may be mentioned, which seems at first to have been exercised at the instance or request of the Town Council, though afterwards vested in the Merchants and Trades Houses by legislative enactments conferring a power of determining the amount, and of judging of the necessity or expediency of the expenditure for works connected with the City. Though at first exercised with considerable frequency and strictness, as appears from their Minutes, this power seems latterly to have fallen into disuse, and though the Trades House in 1787 attempted to vindicate their privileges in this respect, they do not appear to have been supported by the Merchants House, or to have gone further than simply protesting that the right still existed. The Minutes of the House further afford numerous instances of its practical and enlarged benevolence in furthering "good and godly works tending to the advancing the commonwell of the Town," and of its deliberations in almost every matter concerning the general welfare and interest of the City and inhabitants. Further, in the Minutes will be found numerous resolutions on matters concerning the trade and commerce of the Country, which show that the Merchants House is entitled to no inconsiderable share in the credit of infusing the spirit of general industry and activity which began to pervade the community, and in promoting those great projects for public improvement in the end of the last and beginning of the present century, which so materially contributed to the almost unprecedentedly rapid increase which then took place in the material prosperity and wealth of the West of Scotland.

During the whole period which they embrace, the Records of the House bear evidence of the various nature of the important subjects

which from time to time occupied the attention, and received the careful consideration of its members. In the Minutes are recorded numerous addresses of congratulation or of condolence to the Throne, of expressions of loyalty to the Crown, and of attachment to the Constitution, suggestions to Parliament as to the defence of the country, and for the relief of public and mercantile grievances, numerous far-sighted resolutions relating to the Corn Laws, Customs and Excise regulations, respecting the construction of Roads and other communications, Harbours and Lighthouses, regarding Law improvement, matters of police and political reform, and, generally, concerning a variety of other important political and social questions, affecting not only the local interests of Glasgow, but the welfare of the community at large.

So various, indeed, were the matters brought under consideration of the House, that until late years, when the attention of its members has been more exclusively directed to its own affairs as a Charitable Incorporation, the records of the Merchants House consist almost entirely of a resumé of the matters and measures which interested and affected the public of Scotland, and their narration would therefore involve a political History of the times rather than of a local Institution. It has therefore been considered more appropriate and preferable to submit, by the following excerpts from the Minute Books of the House and from other relative chronicles and documents, a record of its proceedings which should be illustrative of the views entertained by the House regarding these public or general matters, as well as of its own particular or domestic affairs.

THE LETTER OF GUILDRY OF GLASGOW AND
RELATIVE PROCEDURE.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MERCHANT RANK.

Apud Glasguam octavo die mensis Novembris anno Domini
Milessimo sexcentesimo quarto.

The which day the whole body of the Merchant rank within this Burgh and City of Glasgow, who was present in the City, being convened to consult about some contraversies fallen out betwixt them and the craftsmen of the said Burgh and their assistants, for settling whereof, and good order to be taken concerning both, for contraversies byegone and in time comeing, which may fall out for disquieting of the members of the whole body and commonwell of this burgh, has all with one consent, after ripe advisements and mature deliberation, thought most expedient to chuse and elect, as by these presents chuses and elects, these persons following, viz.:—William Anderson, Thomas Muir, bailies, Matthew Turnbull, William Stirling, George Muir, Archibald Faulls, John Dickson, Thomas Brown, James Inglis, Robert Adam, James Bell, and James Fleming, merchants, Commissioners for them, to consult, reason, treat, agree, and conclude upon all heads and articles to be proponed and given in before them, by the saids craftsmen and their Commissioners, and especially concerning the election of a Dean of Gild, his power and authority, Acts and Statutes, as concerns the liberty and enlarging of both the ranks of Merchants and Craftsmen, noways hurtful or prejudicial to the commonwell of this Burgh, with liberty to the saids Commissioners to nominate and elect one or more in place of any of them who shall happen to be absent, and to convene at such time and

places as they and the saids crafts commissioners, or these to be elected to fill the number, shall conclude concerning the premises, and what the saids Commissioners concludes the body of the Merchant rank present obliges them to abide thereat in all time coming, but contradiction. In Witness Whereof the saids Merchants required me, nottar publick under-written, to subscribe these presents for them as their common clerk for the time, in name of them all, at day, month, and year foresaid. Sic sub^r Joannes Craig, notarius publicus clericus prædict testante his meo signo et subscriptione manualibus.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CRAFTS RANK.

Apud Glasgum, the eighth day of November, in the year of God, 1604.

The which day all the Deacons of the Crafts of Glasgow, for themselves and in name and behalf of the remanent of their brethren and community, conveyed to consult about some contraversies fallen out betwixt them and the Merchant rank of the said burgh, and for settling the same in good order, as also all other things which heretofore has fallen out or any ways hereafter may ensue or fall out for disquieting the members of one body and commonwell, has all, with one consent, with mature deliberation, thought most meet and convenient to chuse and elect, as by these presents chuses and elects, for themselves, and in name and behalf of the community, these persons following, viz.:—John Anderson, bailie, Robert Rowat, Mr. Peter Low, Duncan Semple, John Muir, skipper, James Braidwood, Gavin Hamilton, James Fisher, John Scott, Thomas Fauside, David Shearer, and William Muir, Commissioners for them, to consult, reason, and conclude upon all articles to be proponed, and to be given in before them by the Merchant trade, and especially concerning the election of Dean of Gild, and of his council and power,

and likewise concerning such acts and statutes as concerns the liberty and enlarging of the crafts and their assistants, always no ways prejudicial to the commonwell, with liberty to their saids Commissioners to nominate and elect one or more in the place of any of them that shall happen to be absent, and to convene at such time and place as they and the Merchant rank shall think good, and whatever the saids Commissioners, or these to be elected to fill up their number, shall conclude concerning the premises the Deacons, for themselves and others foresaid, shall stand and abide thereat inviolably in all time to come. In Witness Whereof the Deacons and community foresaid have required me, notar under written, to subscribe these presents for them, at day, month, and year foresaid. Ita est magister Joannes Alison, notarius publicus clericus prædict testante manu.

SUBMISSION BETWEEN THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE MERCHANTS
AND CRAFTS RANKS.

At Glasgow, the tenth day of November, one thousand six hundred and four years.

We, William Anderson and Thomas Muir, bailies, Matthew Turnbull, William Stirling, James Fleming, George Muir, John Dickson, James Inglis, Archibald Faulls, Thomas Brown, Robert Adam, for themselves and in name and behalf, as commissioners taking the burden for the whole Merchants indwellers in the said Burgh, on the one part, and John Anderson, bailie, Robert Rowat, Mr. Peter Low, Duncan Semple, Mr. Robert Hamilton, John Muir, skipper, James Braidwood, Gavin Hamilton, James Fisher, John Scott, Thomas Fauside, David Shearer, and William Muir, for themselves, and in name and behalf of, and as Commissioners for the whole Crafts, their assistants, and community, indwellers in the said Burgh of Glasgow, on the other part. They both parties, and as having commission from the whole Merchants and Crafts, convened, reasoned, consulted, treated, and concluded anent

the removing of all questions, differences, and contraversies which has been betwixt the saids Merchants and Crafts and their assistants, concerning whatsoever cause or occasion whereupon the debate or question may arise in any time betwixt them; and first concerning a Dean of Gild, the form and manner of his election, power and authority, his council and brethern, their election, his privileges and liberties, with all other circumstances as effeirs; and for the better instruction to the commoners we have ordained one or two to travel to Edinburgh to bring the just copy of the Letters of Gildry, with the Acts and liberties pertaining thereto, either under the subscription of the Town Clerk of the Burgh of Edinburgh, or of any other two nottars subscription, and sicklike to consult and conclude upon such Heads, Articles, and Statutes as is to be proponed by the Merchant trade which any ways may tend to the well, liberties, and privileges, and enlarging of the Merchant rank in any ways; providing always these Acts, Statutes, and liberties be without prejudice in any point or part to the commonwell of the crafts and their assistants. In like manner they shall treat of and conclude concerning the Deacon Conveener, whoever shall be chosen, being a most discreet, wise, and worthy man among all the Crafts, for their well; and shall further confirm, authorize, and enlarge all the liberties of the Crafts and their assistants in all heads and points which shall be proponed by the saids Crafts commissioners, providing always they be neither prejudicial to the Merchant trade, their assistants, and community, or commonwell of this burgh; and to the effect that all things shall be finally ended, both the parties has appointed the twentieth day of this instant, and the which day, and at such other times as shall be thought most convenient for meeting, if it should happen the saids parties to conclude upon the heads, Statutes, and articles for the well of both Merchants and Crafts, their assistants, community, and successors, in all time coming, and yet not agreeing in the whole heads proponed by either of the parties, or both Merchants and Crafts, in that case we have with both our consents

chosen Mr. David Weems and Mr. John Bell, ministers, together with two Merchants and two Craftsmen of Edinburgh to be judges and oversmen, providing they be chosen by both our consents, the which judges shall receive both their claims and briefs, with answers, rights, and reasons made thereto, which being heard and considered by them, shall conclude according to their consents upon all heads and answers questionable, and shall be set down by them in due form for both our wells, not prejudging the commonwell of this burgh, in doing of which we oblige us both parties to stand, abide, and fulfil the decreet and deliverance of the said judges or oversmen without any appellation, reclamation, or contradiction whatsomever. In token whereof, we the saids persons, Commissioners, have subscribed these presents with our hands as followeth, sic sub^r., William Anderson, baillie, Matthew Turnbull, James Bell, William Stirling, James Fleming, Archibald Faulls, Thomas Brown, James Inglis. We, Robert Adam and John Dickson, with our own hands at the pen, led by the notar, because we cannot write ourselves. Ita est Archibaldus Heygate de mandato dictarum personarum scribere nescientium signavit, John Anderson, Robert Rowat, Mr. Peter Low, Duncan Semple, John Muir, James Braidwood, Gavin Hamilton. Ita est Joannes Alison, notarius publicus de mandato Joannis Scot et Gulielmi Muir, scribere nescientium calamumque tangentium testante manu.

THE LETTER OF GILDTRY OF GLASGOW.

The Letter of Gildry, Deacon Conveener, Visitar of Maltmen and Meilmen:—

At the Burgh and City of Glasgow, the sixth day of February,
1605 years.

Forasmuch as the whole inhabitants within this burgh and City of Glasgow, burgesses, and freeman thereof, as well merchants as

craftsmen, having duly considered and deeply weighed the great hurt, interest, damage, loss, and skaith which their hail commonwell these many years bygone have sustained by strangers and unfreemen using and usurping the privileges and ancient liberties of this burgh as freely as the freemen and burgesses indwellers within the same, and partly by some mutual contraversies and civil discords arising amongst the said freemen and burgesses anent their privileges, places, ranks, and prerogatives, by the which occasions not only their trade, traffick, and handling has been usurped by strangers and unfreemen as said is, to the great depauperating of the haill inhabitants within this town; but also all policy and care of the liberties of this burgh has been overseen and neglected, to the great shame and derogation of the honor of this burgh, being one of the most renowned cities within this realm, and having found the only causes thereof to be for the want of solid and settled order amongst themselves; therefore, and for remead thereof in time coming, and for conforming of themselves, the said burgh and city, to other well-reformed burghs within this realm, and for the commonwell and particular profit of the haill inhabitants thereof, in their own ranks and posterity, in all time coming, and especially to the advancing of God's glory and better ability to serve our sovereign lord the King's majesty, and for settling of peace, concord, and amity amongst themselves as faithful Christians and loving citizens, the said haill merchants and craftsmen, and their assistants of both the ranks, and whole body of the town, after many meetings and conventions, long disputation and reasoning concerning the commonwell, quietness, and standing thereof, having nominate and chosen now William Anderson and Thomas Muir, baillies, Matthew Turnbull Robert Adam, James Bell, John Dickson, William Stirling, Archibald Faulls, James Inglis, James Fleming, George Muir, and Thomas Brown, for the haill merchant rank and their assistants, John Anderson, baillie, Robert Rowat, Mr. Peter Low, Duncan Semple, James Braidwood, John

Scott, deacon, John Muir, skipper, Mr. Robert Hamilton, William Muir, flesher, and James Fisher, maltman, for the haill craftsmen and their assistants, and the right honourable Sir George Elphingston of Blythswood, knight provost, Mr. David Weemes, parson of Glasgow, Mr. John Bell, and Mr. Robert Scott, ministers thereof, as oversmen and oddsmen mutually chosen betwixt the said merchants and crafts in case of variance, the said persons having accepted the said matter in and upon them, being several times convened to treat and reason upon the said matters concerning the commonwell of the said burgh after long reasoning had thereintill, for the better advancement of the said common well, and settling any contraversies that may fall out thereafter betwixt any of the saids ranks of merchants and craftsmen and their assistants and successors, and for the better enlarging of both their liberties, freedoms, and privileges, whereby they may live in time coming in the fear of God, obedience to his Majesty, and in good love, peace, amity, and concord among themselves, so as both states may flourish afterwards, after great pains, long travelling, and mature deliberation, heard, seen, and considered, and ripely advised by both the states of the saids merchants and craftsmen and their assistants, has concluded that there shall be in all time coming a Dean of Gild, and a Deacon Conveener, with one Visiter of the Maltmen, whose elections, statutes, and privileges follows:—

1st. That the Dean of Gild shall be always a Merchant and a Merchant sailor and Merchant venturer, and of the rank of Merchant, and shall be chosen yearly by Provost, Baillies, Council, and Deacons of this burgh in time coming, and that fifteen days after that the Baillies of the said burgh are chosen; there shall be of Merchants and Craftsmen an equal number at his election.

2d. The Dean of Gild bearing office in the year preceding shall, with the advice of twenty-four persons of the Merchant rank whom he shall chuse, nominate two of the Merchant rank to be in the leet with

himself, whose names shall be presented in writ before the Provost, Baillies, Council, and Deacons, as is above specified, of the which three they shall chuse one to bear office the year following, and so to be leeted and elected in all time coming, and sworn in presence of the Provost, Baillies, Council, and Deacons for the discharging of his duty faithfully as becomes. And the Dean of Gild shall not bear office above two years together.

3d. The Dean of Gilds Council shall be composed yearly of eight persons, viz.:—Four Merchants, whereof the Dean of Gild bearing office the year preceding shall be one, and four craftsmen all gild brether, who shall be men of good fame, knowledge, experience, care, and zeal to the commonwell, the most worthy men of both ranks. The Dean of Gild his council of the Merchants rank shall be chosen yearly by the Dean of Gild and twenty-four persons of the Merchant rank, whom he shall chuse to that effect; and his council of the craftsmen rank shall be chosen by the Deacon Conveener, and the Deacons of Crafts and their assistants, and their haill council to be sworn yearly, at their election, in presence of the Dean of Gild, and shall be elected the next day after the Dean of Gild is chosen.

4th. The Dean of Gild and his council shall convene every Thursday at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and oftner, as the necessity of the common affairs committed to their charge shall require, being warned thereto by the Dean of Gild or his officer, and the persons absent the said day weekly, but farder warning at the said hour and at other times (excepting sickness or being necessarily three miles out of the town), shall pay an unlaw of six shilling and eight pennies for the first, and thirteen shilling and four pennies for the second, and twenty shilling Scots for the third; and if the Dean of Gild himself be absent at any of the said times (excepting sickness or being three miles out of town, as said is), he shall pay twice

so much of the unlaw at each time as any of his council pays for their absence.

5th. In absence of the Dean of Gild (which shall not be allowed excepting as is before said or some necessary and urgent cause to be known and tried by his council and obtaining their leave), he shall elect by their advice the old Dean of Gild or any one of his council in the Merchant rank to supply his place as his substitute during his absence, who shall be sworn, and if any one or more of the Merchant rank of the Dean of Gilds Council be absent it shall be leasome to the Dean of Gild to bring in a Gild-brother of his own rank, one or more, to supply that place of the Merchant rank being absent during the absence of the other; And if any of the Crafts rank, one or more, belonging to the Dean of Gilds Council, be absent, the eldest gildbrother or his council of the crafts rank shall chuse another, one or more, of the saids crafts to supply the place of the absent, and likewise must be sworn.

6th. The Dean of Gild shall always be an ordinary councillor of the great council of the town; he shall have a principal key of the town's charter chest in keeping.

7th. The Dean of Gild and his Council, or the most part thereof, shall have power to decern in all matters committed to his charge and office, and that within three days if need requires, and shall elect a clerk yearly for the better discharge of their office, who shall be sworn before the Dean of Gild and his Council.

8th. No Procurator or man of law shall be admitted to speak for any person before the Dean of Gild and his Council, but the parties allenarly.

9th. The Dean of Gild and his Council shall have power to judge and give decreets in all actions betwixt Merchant and Merchant, and Merchant and Mariner, and other Gild brothers, in all matters of merchandize and other such like causes; and the party refusing to

submit his cause to the Dean of Gild and his Council shall pay an unlaw of five pounds money, and the cause being submitted, the party found in the wrong shall pay an unlaw of twenty shilling, which two several unlaws shall be paid to the Dean of Gild, and applied to such use as he and his council thinks best.

10th. The Dean of Gild and his Council, with the master of work, shall bear the burden in decerning all questions of neighbourhood and lynning within this burgh, and no neighbour's work shall be stayed but by him, who shall cause the complainer consign in his hand a pledge worth twenty shillings of unlaw, and the damage of the party who then shall stay the work each day to be assigned by him to the complainer to give in his complaint, warning the parties which day shall be within twenty-four hours after the consignment; and the which day the Dean of Gild and his Council, or the most part of them, shall convene upon the ground, and the complainer not compearing, and found in the wrong, shall pay an unlaw of twenty shillings Scots, with the party's damage for hindering the work, to be instantly past and modified by the said Dean of Gild and his Council, and paid furth of the said pledge; and the party finding him grieved by the Dean of Gild and his Council upon consignment of the double unlaw, he is to be heard before the said great Council of the town; and if he hath complained wrongfully he is to pay the said double unlaw.

11th. The Dean of Gild and his Council shall have power to discharge, punish, and unlaw all persons unfreemen using the liberty of a freeman within the burgh as they shall think fit, ay and while the said unfreemen be put off the town and restrained, or else be made free with the town and their crafts; and sicklike, to pursue before the judges competent all persons dwelling within this burgh and usurping the liberty thereof, obtain decreets against them, and cause the same to be put to speedy execution.

12th. The Dean of Gild and his Council to oversee and reform the

metts and measures great and small, pint and quart, peck and firloft, and of all sorts within the elwand, and weights of pound and stone of all sorts, and to punish and unlaue the transgressors as they shall think expedient.

13th. The Dean of Gild and his Council shall have power to raise taxation on the Gild brethren for the wellfare and maintenance of their estate and help of their decayed gild brethren, their wives, children, and servants; and whoever refuses to pay the said tax shall be unlaued in the sum of forty shilling so oft as they fail, providing the same exceed not the sum of one hundred pounds money, and at once, upon the whole gild brethren; which tax being uplifted, the same shall be distributed by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and Deacon Conueener, as they shall think expedient.

14th. Every burgess presently dwelling and having his residence within this town, and so has borne and bears burden within the same, shall pass gild brother for paying a merk at his entry to the Dean of Gild, with forty pennies to the hospital of his calling, and shall use all kind of handling and trade that is lawful, during all the days of their lifetime, at their pleasure, secluding from this benefit all kind of infamous and debauched men of evil life and conversation, who are not worthy of such a benefit, who nevertheless during their lifetime shall be overseen thereintill; and their bairns, after their decease, if they be found worthy and habile by the Dean of Gild and his Council, shall have the like benefit that other gild brothers' bairns have; and all burgesses and freemen above written, who are not of the country, shall be bound to enter gild brother betwixt and the first day of May next to come, otherways to be reputed and holden as strangers; and who are absent off the country shall enter gild brother within fifteen days after their home coming; secluding also from this benefit of gild brother all burgesses who have not their residence within this burgh, and all burgesses within the same who have not borne nor bear burden with the freemen of this burgh (noblemen excepted).

15th. Every gild brother's son or sons that desires to be gild brother shall pay at his entry for his gildry twenty shilling, with five shilling to the hospital of his own calling when ever he designs to pass, either before or after his father's decease, with this restriction, that if he be a Merchant, and of that calling, he shall be worth in lands, heritage, and moveable gear, five hundred merks money, and their assistants to give an account of as much; if he be a craftsman, and of their assistants, he shall be worth two hundred and fifty merks money before he be admitted and received gild brother, who shall be tried by the Dean of Gild and his Council; and as concerning the infamous and debauched persons not worthy of the benefit of gild brother, they shall be tryed by the Dean of Gild, with the advice of a certain number of the Merchant rank as he shall chuse for that effect, and shall inroll all the names of these of the Merchants rank, and their assistants, who are unworthy, and every deacon shall try their own crafts, and that by the advice of the Deacon Conveener, who shall try their assistants who are unworthy, and the persons shall be inrolled in the Dean of Gild's books.

16th. Every gild brother's daughter that marries a freeman burghess of this burgh, shall pay at his entry for his gildry twenty shilling, with five shilling to the hospital of his calling, and he shall be worth so much lands, heritages, and moveable gear, as is above mentioned, whether merchant or craftsman, and tryed worthy by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and this privilege to extend to the gild brother's daughters, as many as he has, providing that the daughter hath no further benefit of the Gildry, but to her first husband allenary; and this benefit shall only appertain and extend to the sons and daughters of gild brothers who are lawfully begotten.

17th. And because there are several lawful bairns whose fathers have been freemen and burghess of this burgh, and are dead within these ten years, who, of equity, conscience, and good reason, should not be secluded from the benefit, it is therefore concluded that such bairns shall,

either by themselves or by their friends, in case they be minors, compear before the Dean of Gild and his Council, and book themselves as lawful bairns to their father, who thereafter, when occasion offers, shall have the benefit of gild brother, paying only twenty shilling, and five shilling to the hospital of their own calling, always being tryed meet and worthy of such a benefit, and be worth the foresaid sum, merchant and craftsman to be tryed by the Dean of Gild and his Council, providing that the saids bairns or their friends compear before the Dean of Gild and his Council to be booked in his books, and that betwixt and the first day of May next to come; otherways afterwards to have no benefit.

18th. All burgesses' wives within this burgh for the present shall enjoy such privileges and liberties during the time of their widowhood as if their husbands were in life, for the benefit of gildry paying to the Dean of Gild thirteen shilling and four pennies, with three shilling and four pennies to the hospital of their husband's calling, the saids widows being always tryed by the Dean of Gild and his Council to be of good life and honest conversation, and the widows to come shall have the same liberty if their husbands have been gild brothers; if otherwise, not to enjoy that benefit.

19th. And concerning the apprentices of gild brothers, burgesses of merchants and crafts, and their assistants—*First*, For the better trial and proof of their good condition. *Secondly*, They ought to be so far inferior to their master's bairns as touching their right through their master. And *Thirdly*, To move them to take their master's daughter in marriage before any other, which will be a great comfort and support to freemen. That therefore no apprentice be received burgess by right of his apprenticeship, without he served a freeman after his apprenticeship for the space of two years for meat and fee, and then be received burgess, paying thereafter for his burgesship to the town ten merks, and then not to be received gild brother by that right without he be burgess for four years, and so to continue thirteen years before he be

gild brother by the right of his apprenticeship, paying then only to the Dean of Gild ten merks money for his gildry; and before his being received gild brother he is to bring and produce before the Dean of Gild and his Council a sufficient testimonial subscribed by the notar who is clerk—viz., if he be a merchant's apprentice, or any of their assistants, he shall have his testimonial subscribed by the Dean of Gild's clerk; and if he be an apprentice to a craftsman, or any of their assistants, he shall bring a sufficient testimonial from the Deacon's Conveener's clerk; and this noways shall be extended against burgesses' sons farther than the old use and wont. But if the apprentice marry his master's daughter, or the daughter of a freeman burgess and gild brother, and if he be found by the Dean of Gild and his Council to be worthy of the forenamed sum, merchant or craftsman, and be of an honest conversation, and of such a benefit, and being so tried, he may be received gild brother at any time by right of his wife, paying only twenty shilling, with five shilling to the hospital of his calling; otherways to pay the extremity.

20th. That every man out of town, whether merchant or craftsman, being not as yet neither burgess nor freeman within this burgh, who shall enter hereafter, shall first be tried by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and being found worth the sum above specified, according to his calling, and of honest and good conversation, shall pay for his gildry, after he is made burgess, thirty pounds Scots, and to the hospital of his calling thirteen shillings and four pennies, except he marry a gild brother's daughter, who then shall only pay for his gildry twenty shilling, and forty shilling to the hospital of his calling.

21st. Whatever person who is not presently burgess and freeman of this burgh, and enters hereafter burgess gratis, shall pay for his gildry forty pounds money, with forty shilling to the hospital of his calling.

22d. The haill sums of money that shall happen to be gotten in any time hereafter for entries as gild brother shall be divided in this

form,—viz., all that enters gild brother as a merchant, or any of their assistants, the money shall be applied for the well of the Merchant's Hospital and their decayed brethren, or to any other good and pious use which may tend to the advancing of the commonwell of this town, which shall be distributed by the Dean of Gild, with advice of the Merchant Council, and such other of the Merchant rank as he shall chuse for that effect. And all that is gotten and received from any craftsmen and their assistants who shall enter gild brother shall be applied to their hospital and decayed brethren of the craftsmen, or to any other good and pious use, which may tend to the advancement of the commonwell of the burgh, and that by the Deacon Conveener, with advice of the rest of the deacons.

23d. It shall noways be leasome to any gild brother who is not at present burgess and freeman of this burgh, but enters hereafter to be burgess and gild brother according to the order set down before, and according to his ability and worth, to tapp tarr, oyl, butter, or to tapp eggs, green herring, pears, apples, corn, candle, onions, kail, straw, bread (except bakers, who may sell bread at all licit times at their pleasure), milk and such like small things which is not agreeable to the honor of the calling of a gild brother.

24th. It shall not be leasome to a single burgess who enters hereafter to be burgess, and becomes not a gild brother, to tapp any silk or silk work, spices or sugars, druggs or confections, wet or dry, or launs or camricks, nor stuffs above twenty shilling per ell, no foreign hats, nor hats with velvet or taffety that comes out of France, Flanders, England, or other foreign parts, nor to tapp hemp, lint, or iron, brass, copper, or ache; neither to tapp wine in pint or quart, great salt, wax, waid, grain, indigo, nor any other kind of litt; neither to buy nor sell in great within the liberties of this burgh salt beef, salmond nor herring, nor yet to salt any of them to sell over again, but for their own use allenarly; neither to buy plaiding or cloth in great to sell again within

this liberty, nor to buy tallow above two stones together, except only candlemakers to serve the town, or any honest man for his own use, nor to buy any sheepskins to dry and sell over again, or hides to salt and sell again, nor any wild skins, within this liberty, as tod's skins above five together, otters' not above three together, and other like skins. And sicklike not to sell any kind of woolen cloth above thirty-three shilling and four pennies per ell, linen cloth not above thirteen shilling and four pennies per ell, except such cloth as is made in their house, which they shall have liberty to sell as they can best; neither buy wool to sell over again within this liberty, nor to buy any linen yarn to sell over again, or to transport out of the town either in great or small parcels, excepting the weavers of the Burgh, who buy yarn to make cloth, and sell the same at pleasure.

25th. It shall not be allowed to cremers to set any cremes upon the High Street, except upon Wednesday and fairs allenarly, and to use no ware but such as are permitted to any simple burgess.

26th. Farder, it shall not be leasome to any single burgess or gild brother to buy with other men's money, under colour and pretence that it is their own, any wares within the liberty of this burgh, to the hurt and prejudice of the freemen thereof, under the penalty of twenty pounds money, and attour crying of their freedom being tryed and convicted by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and that in respect of the great hurt and damage that the freemen of this burgh hath sustained by such doings heretofore.

27th. It shall not be leasome to any person holding shops at any time to creme upon the High Street, but such as sells Scots cloth, bonnets, shoes, iron-work, and such like handy-work used by craftsmen, under the penalty of twenty shilling, toties quoties.

28th. It shall not be leasome to any unfreemen to hold stands upon the High Street, to sell any thing pertaining to the crafts or handywork, but betwixt eight in the morning and two of the

clock in the afternoon, under the penalty of forty shilling, providing that Tappers of linen and woolen cloth be suffered from morning to evening at their pleasure to sell all kind of vivers to be sold from morning to evening; but unfreemen who shall sell white bread to keep the hours appointed.

29th. All burgesses that enters hereafter freemen, remaining a simple burgess, if he gives up his name to be a Merchant, or any of their assistants, shall pay to the Hospital of his calling five merks Scots money, and if he be a craftsman, or any of their assistants, he shall pay to the crafts Hospital five merks money; and all burgesses who enters hereafter gratis, and remaining a simple burgess, either merchant or craftsman, shall pay to the Hospital of his calling ten merks money.

30th. There shall be no burgess made or entered hereafter, except, if he be a Merchant, or of their assistants, he be tryed by the Dean of Gild to be worth one hundred pounds Scots of free gear, and booked in the books, and have a testimonial subscribed with the Dean of Gild's hand; and if he be a craftsman, or of their assistants, he shall be worth twenty pounds money of free gear besides his craft, and shall be booked in the Deacon Conveener's Books, and have the Deacon Conveener's testimonial subscribed with his ane hand, and either of them presenting the said testimonial to the Provost, Baillies, and Council, shall be received burgess, paying their burgess fines as usual; otherways no burgess, whether merchant or craftsman, are to be admitted or acknowledged at no time thereafter.

31st. The Dean of Gild and his Council, for observing the privileges, shall have power to set down unlaws and penalties, and to mitigate and enlarge the same according to the time and place, person and quality of the trespass. And farder, to make laws and statutes, and set down heads and articles to be observed for the well of the town, and the Provost, Bailies, and Council to approve of the same.

32d. The haill unlaws mentioned in the laws above written, and such other Laws, Acts, and Statutes, so set down by the Dean of Gild and his Council, shall be applied,—viz., the one-half thereof to the Dean of Gild and his Council, and the other half to be applied by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and Deacon Conveener, to any good and pious work, as they shall think fit.

33d. It shall be leasome to the Dean of Gild and his Council yearly to elect one of their own number to be Treasurer or Collector of the whole entries money and unlaws that shall happen to be gotten, who shall be bound to make a faithful account of his intromissions thereof, upon eight days' warning, as he shall be required by the said Dean of Gild and his Council, of the which entry money of gildry he shall deliver and make payment of the whole that is to be received of the gildry of the Merchant ranks and their assistants, to be employed to the use foresaid, and the whole unlaws that is received are to be delivered to the Dean of Gild and his Council, to be bestowed on the uses foresaid.

34th. It shall be leasome to the Dean of Gild and his Council yearly to chuse an officer for poinding and putting to execution all the fore-saids Acts and Statutes that are to be set down and decreets to be pronounced by the Dean of Gild and his Council, and for gathering in and poinding for all rents and duties pertaining to the Merchants Hospital, who shall be allowed by Provost, and Baillies, and the Council, and all the Town officers, to concur and assist the said officer in the execution of his office as oft as they shall be required, under the penalty of an unlaw of twenty shilling money upon every one of the said Town officers who refuses, being desired, toties quoties.

35th. The Dean of Gild shall have full power to convene the haill Merchants and their assistants, at such times as he shall think expedient, for ordering their Hospital, and such other necessary affairs that occurs.

36th. It is thought expedient, and agreed upon, that the Annuals of the back almshouse pertaining to the town, behind the Bishop's

Hospital, shall be equally divided betwixt the Merchants and Crafts Hospital in all time coming.

37th. It is agreed and concluded upon that there shall be a common metster of woolen cloth, whom the Dean of Gild and his Council shall have power to elect yearly, who shall be sworn to be leal and true in such things as shall be committed to his charge, and find sufficient caution; and that he shall measure all packs or loads of woolen cloth that comes out of Galloway, Stewartoun, or any other parts, to be sold within this burgh, and shall have for the measuring of every hundred ells from the seller two shilling, and no other but he that is to measure this sort of cloth shall measure any but himself; he shall also measure all other woolen cloth that is either bought in small or in great, and so require the buyer or seller upon the price foresaid; and likewise he shall measure all sorts of plaiden which is sold in great—viz., above twenty ells, and shall have for the measuring thereof two shilling per hundred ells, if the buyer or seller require him, and no other is to measure this sort of plaiden but he; and further, he shall measure all kind of unbleached cloth, linen, or harn, if the buyer or seller requires him, and he shall have for measuring every dozen thereof from the seller four pennies; and if any person, in defraud of the common metster's interest, shall measure the cloth or plaiden above mentioned, he shall try the same before the Dean of Gild, who after trial shall compell the seller or buyer, as he shall think fit, to pay to the metster double duty.

38th. Whatever acts and statutes the Dean of Gild and his Council shall happen to make and set down, further than what is above exprest, at any time afterwards, he shall be obliged to make the provost, baillies, and council acquainted therewith, and shall crave their ratification and allowance from them, otherways to be of no effect, providing there be a like number of Merchants and Craftsmen at the ratification of this act in council; and for this purpose shall once in the year, being

required, produce his book, containing his whole acts and statutes, before the said provost, baillies, and council, to be seen and considered.

39th. It is likewise agreed and concluded that Matthew Turnbull, merchant, bear office as Dean of Gild till fifteen days after the magistrates of this burgh are chosen for the year to come, who has accepted the said office upon him, and has given his oath in presence of the provost, baillies, council, and whole of the deacons, for discharging of his said office faithfully as becomes.

40th. Further it is agreed and contracted that yearly in time coming there shall be a Deacon Conveener, who shall ever be of the rank of craftsmen and their assistants, who shall yearly be chosen that same day eight-days after the baillies of this burgh are chosen, and is to be one of the most wise and worthy amongst the saids craftsmen and their assistants, who shall yearly be leeted in time coming in this form—viz., all the Deacons of the crafts and their assistants shall chuse two with the old Deacon Conveener, to be given in leets before the provost, baillies, council, and all the deacons of crafts and their assistants, who shall make choice of one of them to be Deacon Conveener for the year thereafter following, with this provision, that there be a like number of Merchants and Craftsmen at his election; and the Deacon Conveener shall not bear office above two years together, and shall always be an ordinary councillor of the town's great council, and have a principal key of the town's charter chest to keep, and shall be sworn in presence of the provost, baillies, council, and deacons, to be faithful in his office. He shall convene all the deacons of crafts and their assistants at such times as occasion shall require, and shall judge betwixt them and any of them in matters pertaining to the crafts and callings, and shall make acts and statutes for good order among them, with the advice of the rest of the deacons and their assistants, providing always that these acts neither prejudice the common well of this burgh, merchant rank, or their assistants, nor any privileges granted to any deacons of this burgh by

their Letter of Deaconry granted to them, which acts shall be approven of by provost, baillies, and council; and shall, with advice of the rest of the deacons and their assistants, have power to chuse an officer who shall be authorised to poind and distrinzie, being accompanied with one town officer for putting his action into execution, as likewise for poinding for all rents, annuals, and duties pertaining to the crafts hospital, and whatever town officer refuses to assist the said officer shall pay twenty shilling, toties quoties. And if any deacon or deacons of crafts among themselves or their assistants refuse the Deacon Conveener's judgement in matters concerning their crafts and callings, shall pay an unlaw of three pound money, to be paid to the Deacon Conveener.

41st. All apprentices who shall hereafter become apprentices to any craftsman within this burgh shall pay at his entry forty shilling, with twenty merks of upset, he serving out his apprenticeship faithfully, with this provision, that burgesses' sons pay conform to use and wont, and when he is made a freeman he shall pay only two pennies; and all men out of town who enters freeman with any craft shall pay for his upset twenty pound, with thirteen shilling four pennies to the crafts hospital, and his weekly two pennies.

42nd. The Deacon Conveener, with advice of the rest of the deacons and their assistants, shall have power to elect Collectors, one or more, for the gathering in of the rents, annuals, and duties pertaining to their hospital, who shall be countable to the Deacon Conveener and the rest of the deacons and their assistants for his intromissions, upon eight days' warning, as he shall be required. Farder, the Deacon Conveener shall be obliged to produce his book, containing the whole acts and statutes which he shall happen to set down, before the provost, baillies, and council, to be seen and considered by them yearly when required, and shall crave their ratification and allowance thereto; if otherways, to be of no effect.

43d. It is condescended and agreed that Duncan Semple, skipper,

bear office as Deacon Conveener, while that same day eight-days after the baillies of this burgh are chosen for the year to come, who has accepted the same office upon him, and has given his oath in presence of the provost, baillies, council, and deacons, for faithfully discharging his duty in the said office.

44th. It is concluded that there shall be a Visitor of Maltmen and Meilmen, who shall be chosen yearly in time coming the same day that the Deacon Conveener is chosen, in this form,—The whole Maltmen and Meilmen shall give in four men's names, of the worthiest and discreetest men of the rank of Maltmen, and the old Visitor, in leet, and present them to the provost, bailies, and council, who shall make choice of any one of them to be Visitor for that year, and so furth in all time coming; and he shall be sworn.

45th. The Visitor shall take special notice of these of his calling who profanes the sabbath day, by cleanning, receiving, or delivering meal, bear, corn, or malt, carrying of steep water, kindling of fire in kilns, or such like; and such transgressors being convicted, shall pay to the Visitor ten shilling, and the unlaw to the Session of the Kirk. The Visitor also shall have power to try all meal and bear, either in kiln-houses or shops, except freemen's bear, meal, or malt, coming to their own houses for their own use, and which the Visitor shall have power to visit if he be required by the buyer or in the markets; and when they find insufficient stuff, as hot, rotten, frostie stuff, either mixt among good stuff, or by itself, and likeways, where they find good stuff spoiled in the making, he shall report the same to the baillies, and the owners thereof are to get no more for the said stuff than what the Visitor and two or three of his assistants think it, upon their conscience, really worth; providing that the Visitor and his brethern give their oaths before any of the baillies of this burgh on the same; and if any countryman, seller, refuses that price, he shall take it away with him, paying the custom of the ladles of the town. And if any bear be tryed by them, and found

to be flourished with good above, and under, bad, the owner shall pay sixteen shilling to the baillie and ten shilling to the Visitor; and if any malt be found to be rotten and spoiled in the making, or good malt and bad mixt together, being sighted, and so found by the Visitor, they shall report the worth thereof to the baillie, and if the owner is pleased with that price, he shall have the liberty so to sell it, or brew it himself, or to transport it to any other part, paying always forty shilling for every making; and if any such spoiled stuff be found by the Visitor, by men not living in town, they shall pay sixteen shilling for every mask, the one half whereof to be paid to the baillie, and the other half to the Visitor.

46th. It shall not be allowed to maltmen or others to buy malt, meal, or bear within this town, either before or in time of market, to tapp over again, under the penalty of five pounds, and to be divided, viz., the one half betwixt baillies and Visitor, the other half betwixt the Merchants and Crafts Hospital.

47th. It shall not be allowed to any person to buy any stuff coming to the market, on horseback, or otherways, till it first present the market, except freemen for their own use only, and being first spoken for, or bought before, and so the hours of the market to be kept both by free and unfreemen, according to the statutes of the town, provided that freemen be suffered in seed-time to buy their seed at any time they please. Further, if any stuff be kept, or hid, in kilns, houses, shops, or barns, in time of market, except necessity constrain them to put their meal in houses or under stairs for wet or foul weather, the contraveener of the foresaid statutes to pay—viz., the seller an unlaw of sixteen shilling, and the buyers, who buy above one boll, one load, or more, shall pay to the Visitor six shilling and eight pennies. And if any cake-bakers be found buying meal before eleven of the clock, conform to the town's acts, shall pay an unlaw of sixteen shilling to the baillies and six shilling

and eight pennies to the Visitor, toties quoties, being tryed that they have contraveened.

48th. All persons, who are at present burgesses, shall have liberty to make malt for their own use, or to sell, and all burgesses' sons that shall use that trade hereafter, shall pay to the Visitor, at his entry, twenty shilling; and men not living in town, who marries burgesses' daughters, shall pay conform; and every unfreeman, who is not as yet burgess, and entered to that calling of malt making, shall pay to the Visitor of Maltmen twenty merks money, to be bestowed upon the decayed brethren; providing that all persons, freemen, either present or to come, shall make meal, without any kind of entries.

49th. The Visitor of Maltmen shall have power to try if any unfreemen sell or tapp any kind of stuff, out of the market place, and shall report the same to the Dean of Gild; the seller to pay an unlaw of twenty shilling, one half thereof to the Dean of Gild, and the other half to the Visitor, toties quoties, and is to be tryed before the Dean of Gild.

50th. All rubbers of meal are discharged, by the acts of the town, as hurtfull to the common well; and it shall be leasome to the Visitor to unlaw the sellers in twenty shilling, toties quoties, the one half thereof to be given to the baillies, and the other half to the Visitor; and discharges all rubbers to rub or measure the meal, but the owner himself only. And what further acts and statutes the Visitor, with advice of his brethern, being conveyed as occasion occurs, can devise for their weel, not prejudging the common well, shall be put in writ and presented to the provost, baillies, and council, and deacons, and they to repel or allow the same, as they shall think proper.

51st. Every person, who enters burgess hereafter, and gives up his name to be a merchant or craftsman, it shall not be leasome

to him to make malt for the space of three years, and if after that he desires to make malt, being a simple burgess, he shall pay to the Visitor of Maltmen ten merks money; and if he be a gild-brother, shall pay twenty shilling at his entry, and their children to have that same privilege and benefitt that burgesses' children have, who are now at present free; as also, the Visitor and his brethren shall diligently and carefully exerce the office committed to their charge. And it shall not be leasome to the provost, baillies, and council to augment their upset among men not living in town, who enters to be maltmen, as they shall think expedient.

52d. Every making of malt, made by a freeman maltman, dwelling within this town, how many soever he makes, shall pay eight pennies for each making; and every mealman shall pay, for every crop or kiln of corn, eight pennies, to be applied to the well of their decayed brethren, providing the freemen's malt and corn made for their own use be free of payment.

53d. Farder, the Visitor of Maltmen shall be obliged, yearly, in time coming, if required, to produce before the provost, baillies, and council, the Book containing all the acts and statutes that shall happen to be made hereafter, further than is granted to them, as said is, to be seen and considered by them, that they may allow or repel the same, as they find occasion, otherways to be of no effect.

54th. It is agreed and concluded, that John Wallace, maltman, bear office as Visitor to the maltmen and mealmen, while that same day eight-days after the baillies of this burgh are chosen for the year to come, who has given his oath, in presence of the provost, baillies, and council, for his discharging his duty in the said office. And for declaration of the crafts assistants—viz., they are maltmen, meilmen, fishers, and all such mariners, and others, who pleases to associate with the crafts for contribution to their hospital, and decayed brethren. And because the foresaid election of the said Dean of Gild,

Deacon Conveener, and Visitor of the Maltmen, with their statutes and privileges above narrated, redounds altogether to the advancement of the commonwell of this burgh, the saids Commissioners, for themselves, having power and commission granted to them by the whole body of the rank of Merchants, Craftsmen, and their assistants, humbly requesting the provost, baillies, and council of this burgh and City of Glasgow, for them and their successors, to ratifie and approve this present letter, after the form and tenor thereof, in all points, and to that effect to grant their express consent and assent to the foresaid Dean of Gild, Deacon Conveener, and Visitor of the Maltmen, and haill privileges, statutes, and ordinances particularly above mentioned, and to interpone their authority thereto, that the same may take effect, and have full execution, as is above specified; and to ordain the same to be insert and registrated in the Burgh Court Books of the said burgh, to the effect foresaid, therein to remain *ad perpetuam rei memoriam*; and to declare that all and whatsoever person, or persons, that shall hereafter oppose the foresaid letters, force and effect thereof, haill statutes and privileges, shall be reputed and holden as seditious persons, and troublers of the commonwell of this burgh, and quiet state thereof, and shall incur the mark and note of infamy, and otherwise to be punished with all rigor. In Witness Whereof, these presents, written by John Craig, nottar, the foresaids haill Commissioners, for themselves, and in name and behalf foresaid; likeas the said provost, baillies, and council, in token of their consent and ratification thereof in all points, have subscribed with their hands, as followeth, at day, year, and place foresaid. Sic subscribitur; For the Merchant rank, William Anderson, Thomas Muir, baillies, Matthew Turnbull, James Bell, James Inglis, William Selkrig, James Fleming, Humphry Cunningham, for Thomas Brown in his absence, Robert Adam, John Wardrop for George Muir, Archibald Faulls. Ita est, Archibaldus Haygate, de mandato Joannis Dickson,

scribere nescientis. For the Crafts rank, John Anderson, Robert Rowat, Mr. Peter Low, Duncan Semple, Mr. Robert Hamilton, John Muir, James Fisher, David Shearer, James Braidwood, Thomas Fauside. Ita est, Archibaldus Haygate, notarius de mandato Joannis Scott, scribere nescientis. Oversmen, Sir George Elphingston, Mr. David Weems, and Mr. John Bell.

DOCQUET TO THE ORIGINAL LETTER OF GUILDRY.

Apud Glasgow, nono die mensis Februarii, 1605.

In the Council house, produced before the provost, baillies, and council, to be admitted, approven, and ordained to be registrated in the burrow court books, and in testimony hereof subscribed as follows, the provost, baillies, and council, William Anderson, Thomas Muir, baillies, James Braidwood, James Fisher, William Robertson, Thomas Pettigrew, James Bell, William Wilson, treasurer. Ita est, Archibaldus Haygate, de mandatis Joannis Dickson et Guilielmi Muir, scribere nescientium.

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF GLASGOW
APPROVING OF THE LETTER OF GUILDRY.

Apud Glasguam, nono die mensis Februarii, 1605.

In the Common hall-house thereof being conveyed, the right honourable Sir George Elphingston of Blythwood, knight, provost of the said burgh, William Anderson, Thomas Muir, and John Anderson, baillies thereof, Matthew Turnbull, Mr. Peter Low, John Rowat, Robert Adam, William Wallace, James Lyon, Humphry Cunningham, William Stirling, John Wardrop, James Bell, James Fisher, William Robertson, William Fleming, John Dickson, John Scot, deacon of the lorimers; John Muir, James Braidwood, William Wilson, treasurer, Thomas

Pettigrew, master of work, counsellors of the said burgh, together with Ninian Anderson, deacon of the cordiners, Richard Kirkland, deacon of the weavers, William Love, deacon of the skinners, William Dunlop, deacon of the masons, George Young, deacon of the bakers, George Pollock, deacon of the coopers, James Naesmith, deacon of the bonnet-makers, and William Muir, deacon of the fleshers. The whilk day, in presence of the provost, baillies, and great council of the burgh, above written, compeared personally William Anderson and Thomas Muir, two of the baillies of the said burgh, Matthew Turnbull and William Stirling, John Dickson, James Inglis, and James Bell, Robert Adam, for themselves, and in name and behalf of Archibald Faulls, George Muir, Thomas Brown, and James Fleming, merchants, Commissioners chosen and elected by the whole body of the Merchant rank of this burgh, and their assistants, on the one part, together with John Anderson, likewise baillie of the said burgh, Mr. Peter Low, John Muir, James Braidwood, James Fisher, John Scot, and William Muir, for themselves, and in name and behalf of Robert Rowat, Duncan Semple, Gavin Hamilton, David Shearer, and Thomas Fauside, as Commissioners chosen and elected by the deacons of the said burgh and body of crafts within the same, on the other part, for treating and concluding upon sundry privileges and liberties, concerning the well of merchants and crafts within this burgh and common well thereof, which persons above written, as Commissioners nominate and chosen by the merchants and crafts, after divers and sundry meetings and long reasoning, to the honor of God, and for the well of both the saids ranks of merchants and crafts, and to the publick and common well of the said burgh, and increase of peace, love, and amity betwixt them and their posterity, by virtue of the saids commissions, respective, after mature advisement having concluded that it is most necessary that there shall be a Dean of Gild within the said burgh, a Deacon Conveener, with one Visitor of Maltmen and Mealmen, authorised with certain liberties and privileges

for the well and benefit of the saids ranks, and common well, as said is, produced before the said provost, baillies, and council, the foresaids commissions granted to them, together with a letter and form of submission, and a Letter of Gildrie, Deacon Conveener, and Visitors of Maltmen and Mealmen, in due and competent form, duly and lawfully subscribed with their hands, and by certain oversmen, nominated by both the saids parties, proceeding upon the commissions granted to them, and with consent and advice of the deacons above written, most reverently desired the said provost, baillies, and great council of the said burgh, to grant and give their full, express consent and assent to the foresaid letters, whole heads, statutes, privileges, and liberties therein contained, and to subscribe and interpone their authority to the same, and ordain the same, with the saids commissions and letter in form of submission, to be insert and registrated in the burrow court books of the said burgh, that the same may take full effect in all time hereafter. Which letter being read and considered by the said provost, baillies, and council aforesaid, and being therewith ripely advised, understanding the same first to redound to the honor of God, common well of this burgh, and well of both the saids ranks of merchants and craftsmen, and to their mutual amity, concord, and agreement hereafter, thought the foresaid petition and desire most lawful and reasonable, and therefore accepted, received, and admitted the said letter; and in token of their consent subscribed the same, and ordained the saids commissions respective, and letter in form of a submission, and that of Dean of Gildrie, Deacon Conveener, Visitor of Maltmen and Mealmen, proceeding and following thereupon, to be insert and registrated in the burrow court books, and their authority to be interponed thereto. To the which letter of Dean of Gild, Deacon Conveener, and Visitor of the said Maltmen, the saids provost, baillies, and council, for themselves and their successors in office, by the tenor hereof have interponed and interpones their authority, and ordains the same with all the sundry

privileges and liberties specified and contained therein, to be observed, kept, executed, and used by the saids Dean of Gild, Deacon Conveener, and Visitor of Maltmen in all time coming, after the form and tenor hereof in all points for the common well of both Merchant rank and Crafts. Sic Subscribitur; A. Haygate.

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF GLASGOW FOR
SETTLING FUTURE DISPUTES BETWEEN THE MERCHANTS AND
CRAFTS RANKS.

Apud Glasguam, decimo sexto die mensis Februarii, 1605.

In the Council-house being convened, the right honourable Sir George Elphinston of Blythwood, knight, provost, William Anderson, Thomas Muir, and John Anderson, baillies, Matthew Turnbull, dean of gild, Robert Rowat, John Rowat, Robert Adam, Humphry Cunningham, John Wardrop, William Fleming, William Wallace, William Stirling, William Robertson, John Dickson, Mr. Peter Low, James Fisher, John Scot, deacon, Thomas Pettigrew, John Muir, skipper, William Wilson, and James Bell. The which day the provost, baillies, and council being careful that hereafter all manner of mutiny, contraversies, question, and debates, shall be removed furth of the common well, especially betwixt the Merchant rank and rank of Craftsmen, that the mutual bond set down among them lately, concerning the Dean of Gild and Deacon Conveener, for the common well of this burgh, and well of both the states, may take happy effect without any particular respect either to Merchant or Craftsman, with consent of the Dean of Gild and Deacon Conveener, for themselves and the remanent of their ranks, has concluded and ordained, that in all musters, weapons-showing, and other lawful assemblies, that there shall be no question, strife, or debate betwixt merchant and craftsman for prerogative or priority, but that they, and every one of

them, as one body of the common well, shall rank and place themselves together, but distinction, as they shall happen to fall in rank, and otherways as shall be thought expedient by the provost and baillies for the time; declaring by these presents that whatever he be, either merchant or craftsman, who makes question, mutiny, or tumult, for their rank, by prerogative or property, and repines at the will and discretion of the provost, shall be judged and reputed as a seditious person, and furdur punished on sight. And furdur, for taking away all partiality and particular respect of persons, amongst the saids merchants and crafts, if it should happen hereafter that any question or quarrel fall out amongst them judicially, or by way of deed, the Dean of Gild, nor Deacon Conveener, nor either of their ranks, shall show themselves particularly affected to any of their parties, in respect that the one is a merchant and the other a craftsman, nor yet assist them, or any of them, tumultuously, in judgement or otherways; but to be careful to see the offender condignly punished, according to justice. And because several burgesses of this burgh, when they happen to commit disturbance with their neighbours within the same, do boast themselves, and vaunt of their friends, to the great trouble of this burgh, and judgment seat of the same, by convocating their friends out of town to assist them; therefore it is concluded and ordained, that whatever burgess of this burgh that hereafter commits disturbance, and falls out with his neighbour, and makes convocation of his friends without the town, to take part with him, and to make further tumult without the town, and in judgment, his freedom shall be taken away, and never to be esteemed worthy to enjoy the liberty of a freeman hereafter; but they shall civilly and quietly seek their redress and remead of their wrong, by way of justice. And sicklike, that all conventions and meetings of the Dean of Gild and Deacon Conveener shall be for putting their statutes to execution, and exercising the liberties and privileges granted by the provost, baillies, and council to them.

LETTER BY KING JAMES I. OF ENGLAND.

To our trusty and welbelouedes Robert Rowatt, Mathew Turnbull, and Thomas Muire, Citizens of oʳ citye of Glasgow.

JAMES R.

Right trustie and welbeloued, Wee greet you hartelie well. Haueinge understood the cheif ground of your differences in that cittie to be a question amongst the equallitie of Marchaunts and Crafts in the government of the towne, and for the remoueing thereof, and reducinge your cittie to quietnes, Haueinge made perticular choise of you to be Bayliffs for this year insuinge, We thought good to requier you as haueinge speciall interest in the election of a councell, to elect and choose them of the most wise, discreet, and peceable men of the cittie, makinge the half marchaunts and the half crafts, accordinge to the rule that we have sent you herein inclosed, wherein you shall do acceptable seruice unto Us. And trustinge to find you conforme, Wee bid you now right hartelie farewell. At oʳ pallace of Whitehall, the 28 of Nouember, 1606.

ACTUM CAROLI II., A.D. 1672, CAP. 129.

Ratification of a Decreit arbitrall between the Merchants and Crafts of the burgh of Glasgow, entituled The Letter of Gildrie, Deacon Conveiner, and Visitor of Maltmen and Meilmen.

Our Soveraigne Lord taking to consideration the great and manie debaits, differences, and contests, which wer betuixt those of the merchant ranke and those of the crafts within the burgh of Glasgow, in the tyme of his royall predecessors, and particularlie in the reigne of his Ma^{ties} grandfather, of evir blessed memorie, until the zeir Jm^vj^c and fyve years, at which tyme by the media^{ne}, interpositione, and

endeavours of severall persones of qualitie, and wise men, burgesses of the said burgh, the sds differences came to be settled and composed. And therevpon, on the sixt day of februarye, the sd year, a submission haveing bein maid following vpon a Comissione granted be the great Counsell of the toun, for the sds pairties, their entering in a Submission, which Submission is daited the tenth of November, Jmviijc and four years. Wherevpon the settlement afirmentionat followed, and is entituled The lettir of gildrie, deacon Conveiner, and visitor of Maltmen and Meilmen, daited the sixth of february, Jmviijc and five years, wherin the parlar powers and authorities condescended vpon to belonge to the sds rexive employments are speciallie enumerated be the magistrats in maner contained in the said Agreement; Which Visitors are for visiting mercats of meill and all kind of victuall, and appointed to try the sufficiencie and insufficiencie thereof. Be vertew of which Aggreement and Decreit arbitrall the inhabitants of the Burgh of Glasgow have lived in great peace, vnitie, and concord amongst themselves. As also thereby good ordor have bein observed in the rexive crafts and callings, and ordorlie contributions made for maintainance of the poor. Thairfor his Maiestie, with the express advice of the Estats of Parlia^t, Ratifies, Confirmes, and Approves of the said gildrie de^t and aggreement, wherby the sd merchants and crafts have lived peaceablie and in good ordor, and the said merchants and crafts have mett and made ordourlie contributions for the maintainance of their poor. Declaireing the said decreit and agreement to have the force and strenth of ane act of Parlia^t.

ACTS OF SEDERUNT OF THE DEAN OF GUILD COURT.

The following Acts of Sederunt or Minutes of the Dean of Gild Court, from the date of its Constitution under the Letter of Guildry, in 1605, are excerpted from the volumes which are at present in existence, not only to illustrate the original, extensive jurisdiction and the forms of procedure of this most ancient and honourable Court, but also to supply as far as possible the hiatus in the proper Records of the Merchants House caused by the loss of the early Minute Books of the Incorporation.

Apud Glasgu, decimo quarto die mensis Februarii Anno Dñi
millesimo sexcentesimo quinto, et pretorio ejusdem.

The quhilk day Mathow Trumbill, deane of gild, togider w' Ro' Rowat, W^m Stirling, Maister Peter Low, James Bell, Jhone Muir, James Braidwood, Archibald ffaullis, Georg Muir, his counsall of merchandis and craftismen, being conveint for electioun of yair clerk, hes nominat ye lytis undirwrittin for cheising of ane of yame in clerk to yame, for ye zeir to cum.

LYTIS.

Archibald Heygait.
Georg Hutchissoone.

Hew Blair.
Jhone Craig.

The quhilk day of the lytis aboue writtin, the deane of gild and his counsall hes electit and chosin Archibald Heygait, court clerk of ye said bruct, ane ordinar clerk to yame for yis zeir to cum, quha hes givin his aithe for dew and lawfull administra^oune in ye said office.

The quhilk day ye foresaidis persounis of ye deine of gildis counsall hes givin yair aithis for dew and lawfull exerceising of ye office of counsallors for yis zeir to cum.

The samin day Andro Bowie, merchand, is electit and chosin to be officer to ye deane of gild and his counsall for yis zeir to cum, quha hes givin his aithe of fidelitie for dew and lawfull administratioune in his office.

LYTIS TO BE COLLECTOR.

Archibald ffaulis.

James Braidwood.

Off ye qlk twa lytis foirsaid, ye deane of gild and his counsall hes electit and chosin Archibald ffaulis to be collector for ye zeir to cum, quha hes givin his aithe of fidelitie.

GILDBRITHIR YE DEANE OF GILD, HIS COUNSALL AND CLERK.

Mathow Trumble, deane.

Ro^t Rowat.

Jhone Muir.

James Braidwood.

James Bell.

Williame Stirling.

Georg Muir.

Archibald ffaulis.

Mr. Peter Low.

Archibald Heygait, clerk.

Followis proveist, baillies, and grit counsall of ye Towne, except thes quha ar of ye deine of gildis counsall.

PROVEIST.

S^r Georg Elphinstoune of Bly'swood, knight.

James Elphinstoune of Woodsyd.

BAILLIES.

Williame Andersoune.

Thomas Muir.

Jhone Andersoune.

COUNSALL.

Williame Fleming.

Jhone Ritchie.

Joⁿ Dick.

Jhone Rowat.

Mr. Joⁿ Rose.

Jhone Scot.

Jhone Weddrop.

Vmphra Cunynghame.

Williame Wallace.

James Lyoun.

Jhone Galbraithe.

W^m Wilsoune, The^r.

Duncane Sempill.

Robert Adame.

Thomas Pettingrew, M^r

James Fischer.

Williame Robesoune.

of Work.

Followis ye merchandis and yair assisteris.

MERCHANDIS.

James Stewart.	Mathow Marschell.
James Hamiltoune.	Andro Bell.
James Fleming.	Jo ⁿ Lawsoune.
Georg Lyoune.	Marcus Kuox.
Michael Broune.	Ro ^t Fergus.
R ^t Hamiltoune.	Williame Adame.
Jo ⁿ Bogill.	Adame Ritchie.
Abrahame Ros.	W ^m Lennox.
Mathow Sempill.	Ro ^t Arthor.
Alex ^r Muir.	Mr. Jo ⁿ Horner.
Georg Malsoune.	W ^m Bowie.
Patrick Montgomerie.	Ar ^d Russell.
Williame Hunter.	Jhone Young.
Robert Lindsay.	Jhone Brysoune.
James Bell, eld.	Thomas Tennent.
Robert Smy ^t .	Andro Dyks.
James Sempill.	Jhone M ^c Michell.
Arthor Gilmour.	James Gilmor.
Niniane Houstoune.	Jhone Or.
Patrick Bell.	Robert Calmeroune.
Waltir Miller.	Andro ffaulis.
Jhone Muntethe.	Alex. Rid.
Andro Wallace.	Williame Crawford.
William Andirsoune.	Robert Dazell.
Jhone Watsoune.	Georg Glasgow.
Georg Wilsoune.	Andro Steelie.
Jo ⁿ Alex ^r .	Gawane Rase.
Mathow Flemyng.	James Connell.
	Andro Bowie.
Patrick Gibsoune.	Gawan Hebbroune.
Patrick Lennox.	Neillie Hommill.
Niniane Gilhagie.	Gilbert Auldcorne.
Gawane Bar.	Andro Stark.
Jhone Rose.	Archibald Hall.
Georg Louk.	Robert Park.
Dauid Paull.	Thomas Fultoune.
James Patoune.	James Wallace.
Williame Boik.	Williame Lennox.
Dauid Adame.	Jo ⁿ Jamiesoune.
Alex ^r Adame.	Andro Watsoune.

Williame Bryssoune.	Alex ^r Harper.
Jhone Gillaspie.	Patrick Robesoune.
Jhone Gibbsoune.	Margaret Miller, wido.
Archibald Fleming.	Thomas Broune.
Mr. W ^m Bell.	Georg Pollok.
Symount Masoune.	James Clerk.
Georg Andersoune.	John Boyll.
Jo ⁿ M ^c Kewne.	Niniane Andersoune.
Jo ⁿ Pacock.	Williame Bochlay.
Gabriell Logane.	Niniane Hill.
Archibald Seller.	Jhone Wricht.
Jhone Bornis.	Ro ^t Maxwell.
Marcus Bogill.	Dauid Hall.
Williame Luggie.	Michall Mayne.
Mr. Patrick Sharp.	Ar ^d Andirsoune.
Mr. Dauid Wemis.	James Gib.
Alex ^r Blair.	Jhone Hamiltoune.
Williame Hendrie.	Hew Montgomerie.
Jhone Gilhagie.	Jhone Fergusoune.
Niniane Andersoune, youngr.	Williame Pettingrew.
Adame Blair.	Johne Rid.
Jhone Morisoune.	Mr. Ro ^t Landellis.
Andro Scharp.	Adame Spang.
James Ingillis.	Jo ⁿ Muir.
Jhone Drew.	Andro Park.
Gawane Allane.	Symount Jamesoune.
Mathow Carslaw.	Jhone Strang.
Robert Parkhill.	Abrahame Muir.
Alex ^r Findlay.	Jhone Luggie.
Mathow Sympsoune.	Williame Wat.
Jhone Smyt.	James Deins.
W ^m Rodger.	Mr. Jo ⁿ Allanesoune.
Patrick Holms.	Ro ^t Cocherane.
James ffaulis.	Jo ⁿ Donald, elder.
Donnald M ^c Ilew.	Jhone Weir.
Williame Wilsoune.	Josephe Fischer.
Williame Hamiltoune.	James Or.
Williame Stobo.	James Kyle.
Patrick Wyllie.	Williame Simmer.
Georg Morisoune.	Patrick Adame.
Mathow Stark.	Gilbert Hunter.
Thomas Wischet.	Ro ^t Hunter.
Petir Gottray.	W ^m Sympsoune.

Archibald Scheillis.	Waltir Bowie.
Jhone Glen.	Jhone Findlay.
Mr. James Glen.	W ^m Smyt.
Andro Angus.	Jhone Moderall.
Alex ^r Muir.	Gilbert Houstounne.
Georg Wischet.	Hew Blair.
Colein Campbell.	Mr. David Hay.
	Thomas Cloggis.
James Thomesounne.	Ro ^t Sawier.
Mr. Ar ^d Glen.	Mr. Jo ⁿ Blakburne.
Alex ^r Sympsounne.	Andro Muir.
Hector Patounne.	Williame Gibsounne.
Mr. Jo ⁿ Wilsounne.	Jo ⁿ Cocherane.
Mr. Ro ^t Herbisounne.	Jo ⁿ Craig, Nott.
Constanteine Miller.	Ro ^t Wilsounne.
Mr. Jo ⁿ Bell.	Mr. Alex ^r Rowat.
Jhone Scheillis.	Jhone Craig.
Williame Gray.	James Baillie.
Archibald Muir.	Georg Wilsounne.
Jhone Dunning, youngr.	Jo ⁿ Gib.
Jhone Steine.	Robert Miller.
Thomas Scheirer.	Thomas Con.
Ro ^t Donaldsounne.	James Stewart.
Thomas Hill.	Jo ⁿ Morisounne, youngr.
Mr. Jo ⁿ Broune.	Jon Andirsounne.

(A list is then given of the Burgesses of the different Crafts Incorporations.)

Apud Glasgu, decimo Aprilis, anno Dñi 1605.

The quhilk day the deine of gild and his counsall vnderstanding ye grit enormitie and vrong done be ye nichbors of yis bur^t to vthers in tyme of biging, The doeirs and committeris of qlk vrang appeiris be The tennor of ye Lre of gildrie to mak ye offenderis fre of all kynd of vrang, and speciallie in yat heid of ye said Lre conceirning lyming betuix nichtbo^r and nichtbour; ffor remeid quhairof it is concludit and ordainit that quhatsumevir personne heirefter dois wrang to his ny[']bor in biging, planting, teilling, or lowsing of martch stainis, or ony vther offence of nichtborheid, sal be punischit and outlawit be ye deine of gild and his counsall, according to ye qualitie and wecht of his fault.

The samin day The deine of gild and his counsall being informit that sundrie malicious and deboschit personnis of yis toune, sclanderis and blasphemis ye guid establischt ordour of ye Lre of gildrie speally at yair tabillis, and vyerwayis, to ye greit disgrace of ye deine of gild and his counsall, in pūs of strangeris, without correctioun or punischment vsit against yame yairfoir; ffor restraining of siclyk blasphemyis be siclyk persounis, it is yairfoir concludit be ye deine of gilde and his counsall, statut and ordainit yat give ony persounis heireftir sal be tryit and fund to sclander and blaspheme ye said ordor, deine of gild or his counsall, The doeris and blasphemers sal be punischit and vnlawit be ye deine of gild and his counsall at yair discretioun, according to ye nature of ye offence.

Apud Glasgow, vndecimo Aprilis, anno 1605.

The quhilk day in pns of ye deine of gild and his counsall personallie compeirit Robert Broune, merchand, and hes willinglie of his awin consent condiscendit yat give evir he sclander or blaspheme the deine of gild or his counsall, at tabill or vyervayis, he sal be bannischit ye toune, and his fredome and libertie in all tymis cuming sal be dischargit, and he nevir to injoy na benefite w'in ye samin.

Apud Glasgu decimo tertio Apr^{is}, anno 1605.

The quhilk day ye deine of gild and his counsall, w^t ye M^r of Work, being conveyit vpone ye grund and lands pertaining to Georg Wilsoune and Andro Boyd vpon ye ane pairt, and ye lands of Joⁿ Baba vpone ye vyir pairt, anent ye complaint of ny'borheid maid be the said Andro and Georg against ye said Joⁿ Baba and Hendrie Wilsoune, for not planting and biging of yeir estmest hedge of ye yeard adjacent to ye yeards of ye said Andro and Georg, to ye grit hurt and skaithe in ye samin yeards, contrar all guid ordor, quhilk being sichtit, ye said deine of gild and his counsall, w^t ye M^r of work, findis y^t ye said Hendrie

Wilsoune and Joⁿ Baba hes suffirit ye said estmest hedg to ruyne and decay narrest ye said Andro and Georg yeard, and yat ye samin aucht and sould be uphaldin be ye said Joⁿ & Hendrie, and w'out ye samin be tymouslie done y^t ye said Androw and Georg will incurre grit scaithe, Thairfoir ye said deine of gild, w^t advys of his counsall and M^r of work, decernes and ordainis ye said Joⁿ Baba and Hendrie Wilsoune, and ayer of yame, to repair the said estmest hedge in sick sufficient manir yat ye said Andro and Georg may be skaithless in yair yeard yairthrow in all tymis cuming, and yat betuix and ye tent day of maii nixto-cum, and yat undir ye paine of ten punds money, by and besy^d ye satisfacioune of ye damage and skaithe yat ye saidis Andro or Georg may incurre or susteine y^r throw, and yat toties quoties.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo quarto Aprilis, anno 1605.

The quhilk day ye deine of gild and his counsall being conveynit, haifand consideratioune of ye misbehavior of sundrie persounis contendand befor him and his counsall in judgment, falling furt w^t vyeris in cumlie languag and wifull terms, to ye greit sclander of him and his counsall, by ye regaird of yair dewtie and reverence yai aucht to have at yat tyme, and not only amangst yameselfis, bot lykvayis be ye misbehauior and language towards ye deine of gild himself and his counsall; Hes yairfoir concludit and ordainit yat all sick persounis yat sall happin to offend ye deine of gild and his counsall, or ony of yame in y^r awin persounis be word or deid, sall pay ane unlaw of five punds money, and farder, at ye deine of gild and his counsallis will, according to the qualitie of y^r offence. And give ony persounis offendis vyeris in manir foirsaid, in p^{ns} of ye deane of gild and his counsall judiciallie, in manir foirsaid, sall pay ane vnlaw of fourtie schillingis money, and farder, at ye will and discretioun of the deine of gild and his counsall, according to ye quantitie and gravitie of ye fault.

The samin day ye deane of gild and his counsall haifand considera-

tioune yat sindrie burgess of vyr burrowis and vnfrie men cumis to yis bur^t w^t yair mercheandis and wairis before Sanct Mungois day, Witsoun monnonnday, Skyrsthirsday, and fair of Glasgow, and vpone sic vyeris heid fair and markatis of yis bur^t, and keipis buithis as give yai war frieman of yis bur^t, and clamis ane spaice befoir and eftir ye saidis markatis, to ye greit hurt and prejudice of friemen; Thairfoir hes statut and ordainit yat nane of ye foirsaid persounis sall have libertie to mak markat bot vpone ye speall day, and quhaevir dois in ye contrar sall pay ye sowme of twenty punds money, toties quoties.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo quinto mensis Aprilis, anno dni millesimo sexcentesimo quinto.

The quhilk day ye deine of gild and his counsall, Joⁿ Smy^t, merchand, of his awin confessioun, is convict and fund in ye vrang for keiping lawfeirschip w^t vnfriemen and bying of hydys in Gorok y war coming to yis towne in greit number, and yairfoir is decernit to pay fyve punds, and give ever he dois ye lyk in tyme coming he then to be confiscat, and his libertie and friedome to be dischargit.

The samin day ye deine of gild and his counsall haifing considera^{une} yat sindrie burgess friemen of yis bur^t may not sa shortlie be admitit gildbreyir befoir ye first day of maii, conforme to ye ordinance of ye Lre of gildrie, for sindrie y^r necessar adois; Hes yairfoir continewit and prorogat ye day of y^r admissioun to ye sevintene day of ye said monethe of Maii, Qrby yat all pnt burges induellaris may injoy ye benefeit of gildry for ye sowme of xxiiis. mye.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo quarto (sic) Aprilis, anno 1605.

The quhilk day in pns of Mathow Trumble, deine of gild of ye bur^t of Glasgow, Robert Rowat, W^m Stirling, James Braidwood, James Bell, his counsallors, compeirit Joⁿ Lowrie as sone and air

To umq^{le} Mr. blais Lowrie, ane of the regentis of ye colledge of ye said bur^t, withe advys and consent of Isobell Ros, relict of ye said umq^{le} Mr. blais, his mother, and of Mr. Joⁿ Rose, his mothers brother, administratoris to ye said Joⁿ, and ye said Mr. Joⁿ takand burdene for ye said Joⁿ Lowrie, heritor of all and haill ye equall half of twa back howss, q^{of} ye ane is ane howss heiche and laiche, containand hall, chalmer, and loft, and ye vyer, ane laiche howss w^t barkhoillis, and ane peice of loft wⁱⁿ ye samin, Togidder w^t ane yeard adjacent yairto, w^t lymbhoillis yairin conteinit, on ye ane pairt, and Joⁿ Young, baxter, burges of Glasgow, w^t

bogill, his spous, also heritors of all and haill ye vyer equall half of ye foirsaidis twa howss, containand as said is, and yeard adjacent y^rto, w^t ye said lymbhoillis, as undeuydit betuix yame, liand wⁱⁿ ye territorie of ye bur^t of Glasgow, vpone ye northe syd of ye gait or streit y^{of} yat passes fra ye eist port to Sanct Mungois kirk, boundit betuix ye landis of umq^{le} Joⁿ Miller, now pertaining to

vpone the west, ye landis of Archibald Sym vpone ye southe, ye burne of Molindinor vpone ye northe, ye comoune vennell and passag yat passes to Sanct Mungois Spout or wall (well) vpone ye eist, and consentit and aggreit yat ye said deane of gild and persounis of his counsall aboue vrittin, suld mak equall and evin diuisionne betuix yame of ye saidis twa howss and yeard, w^t ye lymbhoillis and pertinentis mentionat, and boundit particularlie as is aboue vrittin. According to ye quhilk desyre and consent ye said deane of gild and persounes of his counsall aboue vrittin, haifing sichtit and considderit ye saidis twa back howss, w^t yeard, lymbhoillis, and pertinentis, w^t all and sindrie easmentis and commodities yairof, and yat in p^{ns} of baithe ye saidis pairties, hes devydit and devydis ye samin in twa equall halfis, in manir undir writtin—viz^t (Here follows a description of the divisions of the property).

Apud Glasgu, penultimo die mensis Maii, anno dñi millesimo sexcentesimo quinto.

The quhilk day the deine of gild and his counsall haifand considerit the complaint givin in be ye deikin of ye bonnet-makers, skinneris, and sum merchands of yis towne, makand mentiouned yat sindrie persounis bringis veillis and muttouned to yis bur^t without ye skinis, aganis ye actis of ye towne, to ye greit prejudice of friemen, and brek of ye statutis; Hes yairfoir concludit and ordainit yat na veillis be brocht to yis towne be na manir of persoun without ye skin, vnder ye paine of saxteine s., toties quoties, being convict.

Apud Glasgu, decimo octavo die mensis Julii, anno dñi millesimo sexcentesimo quinto.

The quhilk day the deine of gild and his counsall hes concludit and ordainit that q'sumevir he beis yat is personallie warnit To compeir befoir ye deane of gild and his counsall, and compeiris not, salbe vnlawit in sax schillingis viii^ds., toties quoties as he beis personallie warnit and compeirit not.

Apud Glasgu, decimo octavo Julii, anno 1605.

The quhilk day anent ye greif givin in befoir ye deane of gild and his counsall, be sindrie vnfriemen vpone ye fleschors for hinder- ing of ye friefleschors to sla y'sels beife or muttouned hot vpone Monnonnday, or Settirday, and sicklyk, yat ye haile fleschors heis concludit amangst yame yat onlie four of thame ouklike sall sell flesche, to ye grit hurt and prejudice of ye towne and comouneweill, Quhilk yair abuis ye deane of gild and his counsall thinkis expedient be mendit and repairit, and thairfoir hes ordainit ye samin to be proponit to ye pveist, baillies, and counsall for yair assistance and concurrence, for ordour taking y^twith, Settirday nix- to-cum.

Apud Glasgu, decimo quinto Augusti, anno 1605.

The quhilk day ye deane of gild and his counsall haifing sichtit and considderit ye windo bigit be W^m Pollok in his gavill foranentis ye lands of umq^{le} Thomas Baird, ffindis ye samin lawfull, and thairfoir decernis and ordainis ye said windo to remaine ane windo for evir, and decernis and ordainis ye samin to be stanchorit and glassit, and swa to be vphaldin in all tymis to cum.

Apud Glasgu, quinto die mensis Septembris, anno dñi millesimo sexcētesimo quinto.

The quhilk day Mathow Trumbill, deine of gild, Ar^d ffaullis, James Braidwood, M^r Peter Low, Joⁿ Miller, Georg Muir, and Thomas Pettingrew, M^r of work, being convenit at ye desyre of Jon Bogill, merchand, compleiner, vpone ane complaint maid be him aganis W^m Weims for casting of ane deip hoill in ye end of his close, hard to ye said Jonis gavill. Eftir sicht and consideratione had yairof be ye deine of gild and his counsall, ffindis yat ye said W^m hes done wrang in casting of ye said hoill sa neir to ye said Jonis gavill, and sa deip, and without y^t ye samin be sufficiētly fillit pntly, it will not fail to caus ye gavill fall. Thairfoir decernis and ordainis ye said W^m to fill ye said hoill sufficientlie, swa yat his gavill may be skaithles of ye said hoill in all tymis cuming.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo tertio die mensis Octobris, anno dñi millesimo sexcētesimo quinto.

The quhilk day in pns of ye deine of gild and his counsall, personallie compeirit Andro Brys, wobster at brigend, and is decernit and fund in ye vrang, of his awin confessioun, for bying Tuentie bedis of bedzearne wⁱⁿ yis bur^t, fra ane vnfrieman, not

being frie himself, and is y^rfoir decernit be ye deine of gild and his counsallis modificatioune To pay xl.s. money for his offence, and hes fund Georg Aisdail catioune, yat he sall absteine fra sicklyk occupatioune, and fra ane friemanis calling in tyme cuming, vndir ye pane of fourtie punds money (Toties quoties), and ye said Andro be ye tennor heirof is becum obleist for ye relief of his cationar.

Apud Glasgu, decimo nono Decembris, anno dñi millesimo sexcentesimo quinto.

The quhilk day in pns of ye deane of gild and his counsall, personallie compeirit Archibald Miller, merchand, and is decernit and ordainit be ay^t of pairtie referit yairto To content and pay To Adame Spang, merchand, the sowme of Tuentie punds vi.s. viii.ds., payit be ye said Adame for frauchting of certane merchandeis pertaining to ye said Archibald, furt of Ingland to ye river of clyd.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo tertio Januarii, anno dñi 1606.

The quhilk day in pns of ye deine of gild and his counsall anent ye bill perseuit be Patrick Gibsoun, merchand, contra Alex^r Rid, makand mentioun That quhair ye said Alex^r is awand to him ye soume of fyvescoir punds money vi.s. viii.ds. money, and yat for certaine Ingillis clay^t bocht and resavet be ye said Alex^r fra him, and yat ye said Alex^r refusit to mak him payment yairof, albeit ye dayis of payment war bipast, without he war compellit, as in ye said bill at mair lenthe is conteinit, and in ye terme assi^t be ye said deine of gild and his counsall, To pronunce yair decreit in ye said mattir. The rytis, ressounis, and allega^ounes of bay^t ye saidis pairteis hard, sein, and considderit, and yairvithe ye said deine of gild and his counsall ryplie advysit, bay^t ye saidis pairties

personallie pnt; Be yair decreit and sentence decernis and ordainis the said Alex^r Rid To content and pay to the said Patrick Gibbsoune ye soume of fyvescoir nynteine pundis xiii.s. iii.ds., and yat becaus ye said Alex^r aledgit yat he had payit ye said Patrick of ye haill sowme lybellit except threttie twa punds money, and yat be ane bargaine of cuming clay^t sauld be him to ye said Patrick; and ye said Patrick be reply thairto alledgit yat the said Alex^r be his gret ay^t had suorne in pns of honest witness yat ye said Patrick sould never get, nor resave ye said cuming clay^t, becaus he refuisit to pay ane lawing for him, and yair exonorit him of ye said bargane of cuming clay^t; Quhilk ye said Patrick reply being admitit to his probatioune, and sindrie termis assi^t to him for preifing yairof preifit ye samin sufficiently. Thairfoir is decernit and ordainit in manir as said is, and ye said Patrick, be ye proba^oune as said is, is absolut fra ye said bargane of cuming clay^t To be payit wⁱⁿ xv. dayis w^t xiii.s. iii.ds. of expenss.

Apud Glasgu, sexto Februarii, anno dñi 1606.

The quhilk day the deine of gild and his counsall hes appointit tuysday nix-to-cum to begin for ordour taking w^t sealling of ye stopis, and ordainis ye drum to pas throw ye toune to warne ye q^teris conforme to ye last act maid yairnent, and first to begin at ye first quarter of ye touneheid.

Primo die mensis Maii, 1606, being conveynt Ar^d Faulis, dene of gild, Thomas M^r, Joⁿ Andirsoun, James Bell.

Qlk day the dene of gild and brethrene cvenit ordainis the remanent of ye stopis and missors to be brocht in and markit y^t are not bro^t in and markit wⁱⁿ yis town, and assins to begin y^to tysday nixt ye vi of maii, at twa eftir none, and sa furt to continow daylie qⁿ the haill missors to be markit, and ilk twa of his counsall to be

w^t him, w^t ye M^r of work, and to begin at ye briggait, new vynd, and Stokwell, and fra ye croce to ye barras yet on Widinsday nixt, y^eftir Tronegait and gallowgait vpone thursday, fra the croce to ye tyneheid fryday, and ye rattounraw, drygait, and stabill greine Settirday, and ordainis ye drum to mak adwertisment to ilk q^ter.

Decimo secundo Junii, 1606.

Qlk day Cudbert Millikin and Johne Grasie, being accusit for tapping and selling of woll in grit and small qⁿtitie af mercat dayis, is cvict y^rof of yair awn confessioun, q^rof yei are remⁿttit (reprimanded) for yis wrang, and ar ordainit to ceis fra ye like in tyme cuing, vndir ye payne of x.l.

Decimo nono Junii, 1606.

The qlk day the dene of gild and his brethrene, vpone consideracioun had be yame of ye weill of ye inhabitantis of yis bur^t, permittis to Henrie M^rheid and his lawferis to sell yair victuall to free men duelling wⁱⁿ bur^t in small and grit quantitie, as boll and firLOT, to yair awn vse and furnesing, no^wtstanding ony act maid against yame of befoir in the contrar, and y^t all ye dayis of ye wik, except ye ordiner mercat dayis, and vpone mcat dayis to p^sent ye victual in ye mcat. And likewise permittis ye same licence to all personis bringand victuall be sey to yis town fur^t of ye sow^t p^t of grit Britane and west pairtis y^rof, w^out p^ouidice alwayis to provest, bailleis, and counsell, to accuse and cvict all vnfrie triffiquers duelland w^out frie burrowis.

Vigesimo Nouembris, anno dni 1606.

Qlk day Ninian Darro^t, merchand, beand accusit for vsing ane fre manis libertie and likewise ane gild brotheris libertie, hes promist

to entir himself free man w^t ye town and thaireftir to be gild brother,
and y^t vndir payne of tinsell of fredome for evir of gild brother.

Apud Glasgu, decimo octauo Decembris, 1606.

The qlk day Joⁿ Donald, younger, being accusit for breking of ward, beand com̄tit thairto be Andro Bowie, off^r to ye dene of gild, qⁿ he fand cautioun to decist fra haunting or vsing of ane gild brotheris libertie, and sicklike for Inuiring of George Wilsoun, tailzeor, be wordis, in p^sens of ye dene of gild, in Daudid Hallis hous, makand yair comptis in p^sence of ye said dene of gild, Is cum in the dene of gildis will for ye samyn, Qlk will is ctinewit to new warning to be maid to ye said Joⁿ thairanent.

Apud Glasgu, decimo q^{uo} Aprilis, 1607.

Qlk day Joⁿ Wilsoun, fischer, accusit for contempteous breking of ward, being chargit wⁱⁿ ye tolbu^t be virtew of ane decreit obtenit against him be Andro Snype, and y^t wⁱⁿ bar in the Tolbu^t, the charge being verifeit be Andro Bowie, off^r, is c̄vict of breking of ward and ctempt of ye deine of gildis au^{de}, and for ye same is cum in will.

The said Joⁿ yaireftir confessit he had in his handis xxxiiii merks, except iii.l. q^{lk} iii.l. Joⁿ Knox sould pay to Andro Snyp as he allegis.

Apud Glasgu, xxii Aprilis, 1607.

The qlk day the dene of gild and brethrene c̄venit to declair their will anent the breking of ward be Joⁿ Wilsoun, and for his Irreverenc and proud behaiuo^r in p̄ns of ye dene of gild and brethrene in Judgement, resisting of Andro Bowie, off^r, in vsing his office, Ordainis the said Joⁿ pay for his manifald wrangis foirsaid to pay ten pund of vnlaw.

Apud Glasgu, decimo q^{uo} die mensis Octobris, anno dñi millesimo sexcentesimo septimo.

The qlk day Ar^d ffaulis, dene of gild, Jo Andirsoun, W^m Andirsoun, James Bell, Thomas Pettigrew, Thomas ffawsyde, ordiner lyners of ye said bur^t being convenit vpone ye ground and landis perteng to ye Colledge on the ane pairt, now occuput be Ro^t Lufe, and ye landis pertening to ye aris of umqⁿ Henrie Spreull, cowper, now occuput be Joⁿ Baba, cordener, and yair anent ye complante of ny^tbo^rheid maid by Mr. Patrik Scharpe, principall of ye said colledge, for himself, and in name of ye said colledge, and be the said Ro^t Lufe, thair tenent, contrar ye said Joⁿ Baba, desyring merchis and stobbis to be set and fixit betuix ye said colledge landis and ye landis of ye aris of ye said umq^o Henrie, occuput and possest be ye said Joⁿ Baba, Qlk complant being sichtit and considrit be the said dene of gild and lyners fairsaid, in presens of ye saidis pairteis personallie present, Set and fixit stobbis and merchis betuix ye saidis twa pairteis Landis, speciallie at ye end of Johnne Babais land occuput be him, and at ye end of Ar^d Milleris gavill, and at the eist end of ye gavill occuput be Ro^t Matthow, And decernis and ordainis ye saidis merchis and stobbis set be thame to remain in all tyme cūing, and keip ny^tbo^rheid conforme thairto.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo nono Octobris, 1607.

The qlk day it is statut and orda^t be the deane of gild and his counsell yat p^t of the Lre of gildrie concerneing the holkie (weeklie) conveyeing of the dene of gild and his counsell vpone the thursday at the ringing of the bell be observit, and the absentis vnlawit conforme the Lettir of gildrie.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo octavo Julii, Anno dñi millesimo sexcentesimo octavo.

The qlk day it being considrit y^t ye pure of the townis bak

hospitall, foundit be umq^{le} M^r Ranald Blacad^r, deptit yis lyfe sum of men, and albeit y^{of} ye rent y^{of} is not payit to the twa hospitallis foundit be merchandis and craftis, Thairfoir ordanis tryell to be tane of sik as is deptit, and ythow ye rent is tane vp for biganis, y^t ye same may be applyit heireftir to ye saidis hospitallis, conforme to ye L^{re} of gildrie, and to remembir vpone ye reformeing vpone ye misso^m.

Apud Glasgu, octavo die mensis Decembris, 1608.

The qlk day George M^r, den of gild, sittand in judgeme^t, resaut ane roll of certane merchandis nōmt and chosin be yame to be vpone his counsell, To wit, Ar^d Faulis, James Bell, Joⁿ Lawsoun, and Joⁿ Bornis; and siklyke resaut ane roll of certane of ye craftis chosin and nōmt be yame to be vpone his counsell, To wit, Joⁿ M^r, skipper, James Fischer, Thomas Morsoun, and Thomas Fawsyde q^a all personallie p^sent and comperand this day, except Thomas Fawsyde q^a is seik, acceptit on yame thair officeiss and gaif yair aithis, as vse is.

The samyn day Ar^d Heygait, p^sent clerk, is electit clerk for this zeir, and hes gifin his aith.

The samyn day Andro Bowie, p^sent officear, is chosin off^r for yis zeir, and hes gifin his aith.

The samyn day Patrick Adame is chosin of new comoun metster for yis zeir to cum, and hes gifin his ai^t.

The samyn day Joⁿ Lawsoun, merchand, is chosin collector for yis zeir to cum, and hes gifin his aith, as vse is.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo sexto Aprilis, 1609.

The qlk day George M^r, den of gild, and certane vtheris his brethren of counsell being convenit vpone the grond and landis perteing to Joⁿ Drew, maltman, and speciallie y^t p^t yairof q^r he hes bigit ane stane dyke at the eist end of ye drygait port, and vpone ye nor^t syde yairof; eftir sighting and considera^{un} yairof,

ffindis yat the said stane dyke is bigit vpone the townes ground,
Thairfoir ordanis the same to be removit be him.

In the counselhous, the xxvi day of October, 1609.

Qlk day the dean of gild and his counsell, undirstanding y^t the fundacioun of the bak hospitall of fo^r personis be this town of ald, is liklie to pass fur^t of vse of payment and all memorie, gif present remeid and ordor be not takin heirw^t; Thairfoir ordainis the dekin convenier, Thomas Morsoune, to convey w^t the dean of gild, the morn at ane eftirnone, w^t thair counsell, to consult and advyse vpone the placeing of ye rowmes vacand, and to set down ane perfyte rentell of ye said fundacioun, and ye same to be regrat in thir buikis.

Apud Glasgu, vigesimo secundo Novembris, 1609.

The qlk day Patrik Colquhoun, wricht, is maid burges and frieman of yis bur^t in favors of Henrie Colquhoun, wricht, as for ane burges fynis promist to him be thre bailleis, be way of bunteth, for his werk and seuice maid in repairing of ye hie kirk, the samyn being verifeit be Mathow Trumble and James Braidwod, bailleis, q^a promist ye same in name of ye town, and hes gifin his ai^t of fidelitie, as vse is; and for obsveing of ye statutis of ye sukin, his worth and valeor being verifeit be testimoniell of Thomas Morsoune, den of gild, Joⁿ Lawsoun hes resa^t v*s.* viii*.ds.* to ye pure.

Apud Glasgu, octavo die mensis Februarii, 1610.

The qlk day comperit Mathow Trumble, in name and behalf of Mathow, Jonet, and Johane Conynghames, as ane tutor to ye said Mathow, and ane of ye curao^r of ye said Jo^t and Jean, and noiat (nominat) yame as lafull bairnis to vmq^lo W^m Conynghame, merchand of yis bur^t, q^{by} they may resaif ye benefit contenit in ye Lre of gild brotherheid at yair perfyte age.

The qlk day Ninian Hill, merchand, is cum cautioner for George Hill y^t he sall decist fra ane frie manis tred yis bur^t in all tyme cūing qⁿ he be free, vndir payne of xx.*ls.*, and ye said George to relieif his cautione.

In the Counsalhous, being cōvenit the xxvi day of Apryll, 1610.

The qlk day James Bell, dean of gild, declarit vnto his breithering of counsall cōvenit, yat he was to dep^t aft the realm to the ptis of Flanderis for pforming of sundrie his veltie (weighty) affairis of merchandis, y^rfoir desyrit that ane sould be nominat of his counsall to supplie his roum & place qⁿ his return, cōforme to the Lre of gildbrotherheid; according to ye qlk his desyr, and for observing of the ordor sett down in ye said Lre of gildbrotherheid, the said breithering of counsall be y^r voitis & cōsent, hes nominat Thomas Miller, mchand, to supplie his roum and place as dean of gild during his absence.

The qlk day ye dean of gild and his counsall, vndirstanding y^t the vpgaving & nomina^oun of Christien Dyk, dochter of vmqⁿ Dauid Dyk, merchand, as ane burges dochter, nominat be Joⁿ Dyk, mchand, hir father's brother, q^rby scho my^t resave the benefeit as ane burges dochter of the gildbrotherheid of this bur^t. Efter tryell tain y^rvpone, is fund to be far past ye tyme preseryvit in the Lre of gildbrotherheid, & being fund falt w^t be the great counsall of the toun, be thir prntis annullis the said act of hir nomina^oun & vpgeving, & declaris the samen to be null and of na availl in tyme cūing, and to be extract and deleat furthe of thir buikis in all tyme cūing.

In the counsalhous, ye xvii day of Ja^r, 1611.

The qlk cōvenit Thomas Hill, mchand, quha being burges of the said bur^t is admittit and resavit gildbrother of ye sam, his fynis xxx. lib. money in ye thes^m handis to be payit vpone the first of Maii nixt-to-cum,

vpone this cōditioune, y^t the said Thomas cum and mak his actual recidence wⁱⁿ ye said bur^t betuix and witsounday, in ye zeir of God, Javi and xii zeiris, and failzeing y^rof, of his awn cōsent that he tyn and amit all libertie of the said bur^t ather of burgeschip or gild brotherheid.

xx Julii, 1611.

Thairef^t c^operit the said Ro^t Coplay, and is resavit and admittit frieman of this bur^t and citie, as he q^t is testifeit be Thomas Morsoun, Dyken cōvener, to be worthe ye soun of xx. lib., cotenit in ye Lre of gildrie, besyd his calling. His fynis, xl. lib., to be payit to James Briskat, the^r, at the t^m following, viz., xx. lib. y^rof at michelmes, and xx. lib. at mertimes nix-to-cum, for payment y^rof Ro^t Farie, mēchand, w^t yis provisioun, y^t first he marie Jo^t Stevinsoun, dochter of vmq^{le} Ro^t Stevinsoun, vpone q^m he is cotractit & begottin barins, he mariand the said Jo^t betuix and the foirsd t^m paymet.

In the tolbuthe, ye xxii day of August, 1611.

The qlk day compt and rekning being maid betuix Johne Duncansoun and David Scheirar, anent ye said Johne his debursingis and expēss maid and debursit be him in Irland, as thrid ptner of the voyadge maid to Irland, and hering fysching yairin, be him the said David and umq^{le} Joⁿ Will, in anno 1610 yeiris. The said day, and of his awn cōsent, is decernit and ordanit to cotent and pay to the said Joⁿ ye soun of ten lib. money, in full satisfacioun and cotenta^oun of all comptis, reknigis, expenss, debursingis, portadges, or ells q^t the said Joⁿ, as thrid ptner foirsaid, ye said yeir.

Apud Glasgu, vndecimo Septembris, 1611.

The qlk day, in pns of James Bell, Dein of gild of ye said

bur^t, Joⁿ Andirsoun, Thomas Pettigrew, Thomas Broun, Ninian Andirsoun, Joⁿ Lawsoun, Joⁿ Scot, and Patrik Maxwell, bryrein of his counsell, ordiner lyners of ye said bur^t, being convenit vpone ye grund and back landis pertaining to James Stewart, ane of ye bailleis y^rof, vpon ye ane p^t, to Joⁿ Craig, notar, vpon ye vyer p^t, and to Michael Broun, merchand, vpon the thrid p^t, having convenit of befoir vpon ye said grund and hard ye saidis p^teis yen p^{nt}, for all and q[']sumever ry^t and tytill ye said James and Michael nicht or could pretend in and to ye staying and priveledge and ry^t of ane Jawhoill, maid be ye said Joⁿ Craig vpon ye back syde wall of his heiche foir tenement, sumtym pertening to M^r Ro^t Herbertsoun, anent ye mercat croce of ye said bur^t, vpon ye sou^t syde of ye Trongait yrof, and q['] yei haid to say against ye samyn; the said James Stewart, Joⁿ Craig, and Michael Broun, all personallie present, ye day and dait heiroyf, after y^r reasonis and allega^oins hard and considerit, the said Dein of gild and bryrein of his counsell, ordiner lyners foirsaid, being ryplie advysit y^rw^t; ffindis and declairis yat ye said Joⁿ Craig hes done na wrang in making and stryking fur^t ye said Jawhoill vpon ye back wall of his said tenement, being w[']in ye boundis of his awn sklait ruiff drope, Thairfoir ordanis him to ragell ye wall of ye said tenement fra ye mou^t of ye said Jawhoill doun to ye ragelling of ye wall of ye said Michael Brounis back bui^t unto ye grund, qlks ye said Michael w[']in his awn boundis hes licentiat to him, and to clois ye said ragelling w^t buirdis to ye grund, and to vphald ye samyn in all tym cūing, swa y^t ye wattir and jawingis cūing fur^t of ye said jawhoill may discend and cum to ye syo^r of ye throwgang of ye clois pertening to Johne Wilsoun, sone and air['] to umq^h M^r Joⁿ Wilsoun, and vyer heretoris w[']in ye same for frie passage thairthrow to ye gutter of ye foir gait, for eisement of his said tenement in all tyme coing.

Being covenit in ye tolbt of Glasgw, ye for^t of Junii, 1612.

The qlk day Daud Scheirar, being covenit and accusit for demolising and dinging doun of Adam Merlis new bigit work nixt adjacent to him, qlk vpon the said Adamis complaint was sichtit vpon the grund of bay^t y^r new bigit landis, the said Daud personallie pnt cofessit the doun casting y^rof, and thairfoir is of his awn cofessioun decernit in ye wrang for doing yairof.

In ye tolbuthe of ye said bur^t, ye penult of July, 1612.

The qlk day the dean of gild and his breithering for ye mair suir and exact ordo^r to be tain w^t all sik psonis quha becums ca^{rs} (cautioners) and soverteis for ye etrie of onfriemen, befoir the dean of gild, for finding ca^{un} be tham to decist and ceis fra tred and traffique of friemen, and for sik quha cums ca^{rs} and souerteis for vnfriemen that they sall deceist and ceiss fra tred and traffique of friemen vnto sik tym as thay becum friemen of bur^t, hes sett doun statut and ordanit y^t all sik as cums ca^{rs} for entrie of vnfriemen to find ca^{un} to deceist and entres no^t, the vnfrieman for q^m he becums catioun at sik a day as he takis in hand to eter him sall be vnlawit and pay the soun of ten lib., and sik q^a becums ca^{rs} and souerteis for vnfriemen, y^t thay sall decist fra friemans tred q^u thay be frie in bur^t, and sall be fund to contravein by exerciesing friemans tred at any tym y^reft sall pay the soun of xl. lib. as a burges fynis, and sall be frie, and ye samen vnlawis to be exactit and applyit coform to ye vse cotenit in y^t article in the buik of gild broyheid.

In ye Tolbuthe, ye xxii day of Aprill, 1613 yeiris.

The qlk day ye dein of gild and bryrein foirsaid hes statut and ordanit ye drum to gang throw ye toun vpon tsday nix-to-cum, and warne all ye inhabitantis wⁱⁿ yis bur^t to cum w^t y^r stopis to ye Tolbuthe vpon Weddinsday nixt y^reftir, atwixt sick tymis as salbe

signifeit to yame be ye sound of drum; And sicklyk, statutis and ordainis ye haill ellwanis onseillit to cum the said day to be seillit in ye Tolbuit foirsaid vnder ye paine of v. lib. vnforgiwin.

25th May, 1613.

The qlk day ye said proveist, bailleis, and counsell, haifing considderit yat ye making of burgess in tyme bygane, for ye sowme of fourtie pundis, hes bein hurtfull and prejudiciall to yis bur^t; Thairfoir it is statute and ordanit be yame yat na burges be maid heireftir wⁱⁿ ye samyn in vnder na less sowme nor ane hundrethe merkes q^{as} it was fourtie pund of befoir.

In ye counselhous being convenit vpon ye tent day of Junii, 1613 yeiris.

The complaint giwin in be Thomas Tennent, contrair Andro Purdoun, anent ye insufficiencie of ye hering, and ye salt wⁱⁿ ye twa hogheid of hering clameit mair nor was neidfull, is referrit for ye p^t of ye said Thomas to Joⁿ Hall, cowper, and for ye pairt of Andro Purdoun to Niniane Hill, and to meit ye morne, and to decerne betuix and yis day aucht-dayis, and in caice yei agrie not, ye dein of gild and his counsell to pronuce in ye said mater conforme to ye practise, vsit, and w^d (wont) y^rintill.

In ye counselhous, ye xvii day of Junii, 1613 yeiris.

Anent ye bill perswit at the instace of Thomas Tennent, mchand, aganis Andro Purdoun, mchand, makand mentioun That q^r the said Andro suld have delyverit to him fyve hogheid and ane barrell of salt herings for auchtein punds money ilk hogheid, Trew it is that the said Andro at ye setling of ye said hering, qlk was in februar last, faithfullie promist to vphald ye said hering guid and suffit as yai weir in ye mouthis of ye said hogheids, q^{as} thair are

twa hogheids and ane barrol of ye said herings is al full of vnmoltit blak salt, swa y^t ye samyn is nay^r proffit nor merchandible. Besakand y^rfoir ye said deane of gild and his counsall To decern ye said Andro Purdoun to ctent and pay to him ye sowm of tuelf pundis, quhilk he is dampnifiet in the said twa hogheid and ane barrill of the said herings, as in the said bill at mair lenth is ctenit. The said persewar cpeirand psoly (personally), and the said defender likwyis cpeirand psonallie. The said pties, y^r reasons, allga^{uns}, qlkes with the depositions of diurs (divers) famous witness resavit, sworn, and admittit; The said deane of gild and his counsall decernis and ordainis the said Andro Purdoun to ctent and pay to the said persewar the sowm of allevin lib. v.s. quharin he is dampnifiet in ye foirsd twa hogheid and ane barrill of herings, and certifies him to ctent and pay to the said persewar the sowm of xiii.s. iiij.ds., as for expenss, Becaus the said persewaris bill being admittit to his pba^{un} (probation) he provit ye samyn suffillie, as offerit.

In ye counselhous, ye viii day of Julii, 1613 yeiris.

ffollowis ye ay^t of ye burgessis to be takin of yame y^t sall be maid heirefter.

Heir I protest befor God and ors, That I confes and allow w^t my hait the trew religioun pntlie profest within this realm, and authorizit be the lawis thair of. I sall abyd thairat and defend the samyn to my lyfis end, Renunceand the romane religioun callit papistrie. I salbe leill and trew to o^r souerane lord, my lord-archbischof of Glasgow, to the provest and baillies of this bur^t. I sall keip and observ the statutis of yis bur^t. I sall obey the offi^{ce} yairof, fortifie, mantene, and defend thame in the execu^{ne} of yair offices with my body and guidis. I sall not cullour vnfriemen's guidis vnder cullo^r of my awin. I sall not purches lordschipis nor auties cotrair to the friedm of the bur^t. In all taxa^{nis}, watchingis, and wardingis to be layit vpon this bur^t, I sall wil-

linglie bier my pairt as I am comandit be the *m̄gratis* y^of, and sall not purches nor vse exemptionis to be frie of ye samyn, Renunceand the benefit y^of for evir. I sall not attempt nor do nathing hurtfull to the liberties and *comoun* weill of this bur^t. I sall not brew na malt bot sic as is grund at the tounis mylnes, nor by aittis to be grund at ony vy^r mylnes bot ye samyn allanerlie, or ony vyer stuff except quhat qlk I sal happin to inbring within this bur^t, or suld be in y^rintill, And swa oft as I sall brek ony point of this my ay^t I obliss me to pay to the *comoun* officers of this bur^t, the sowm of ane hundreth punds, and sall remane in waird qⁿ ye samyn be payit. Swa help me God, and be God himself.

The ay^t of ane gild broyer to be takin heireftir.

I sall give the best counsall I can, and conceill the counsall schawn to me. I sall not consent to dispone the *comoun* guid, bot for ane *comoun* caus, and ane *comoun* proffite. I sall mak concord q^r discord is to the vttermaist of my power. I sall give my leill and trew judgmet in all lienationis and nytbo^rheid, but pryce, prayer, or rewaid. Swa help me god, and be God himself.

Apud Glasgu, decimo nono Autⁱ, 1619.

The said day the said dein of gild and brythren foirsaid, Being convenit vpon ye passage going to ye new kirk zaird, and being sichtit & considderit be ye said dein and his said bryren, ffindis yat Marioun Bell, lyfrent^r, and Ard. Lyoun, occupyer & possessor of ye said passage, hes, be yairselfis and vyeris in ther names, layis in stray wⁱn ye said passage, and fylis ye samyn w^t filthe, q^rby ye heritors of ye saidis zairdis can not haif frie ische nor entrie y^rto, to y^r great prejudice, Qrfor ye saidis dein of gild and his said bryren ordainis the saidis Marioun Bell, lyfrent^r and Ard. Lyoun, occupyer y^of, to hald ye said passage frie ony fuilzea or filthe, q^rby ye saidis heritors may

haif frie ische and entrie to y^r saids zairds w^tout trubill, and swa to remane in all tyme cing.

The Act Books of the Dean of Gild Court are awanting between the year 1622, when the volume from which the foregoing excerpts are made ends, and the year 1661.

Apud Glasgow, decimo septimo die Octobris Jaivj, & thriescoir ane yeares.

The sd day Johne Gairner, merchand, being requyred to give his oath whither he had bought any staple wair wⁱⁿ this burgh from vnfriemen nott sent for or foirbargained, Becaus he refused to give his oath y^upon, was holdin giltie and vnlawed in Ten dollors.

Vigesimo primo Novembris, 1661.

The same day the foirsaid deane of gild and his bretherine Having sein and at lenth haird and considderit the twa billes and clames given in be Robert Cumyng, mer^d burges of ye s^d bur^t, and Dalrumple, in Kirkintilloch, both of y^m clameing right y^rby to ane through (sic) staine lyand in the hie kirk zaird y^of, q^lk of old pertained to umq^l Joⁿ Dalrumple, mer^d burges of ye samyne. And having haird both pairties at lenth y^rintill, and given y^m seall dyets and tymes for instructing ther severall rights y^rto, and finding that the sd Robert Cumyng had producit ane dispositiune maide be Andrew Dalrumple, wright, burges of Edinburgh, as brother german and air to the sd umqⁿ Johne Dalrumple, To and in favors of Johne Kinkaid, mer^d burges of the sd burgh of Edinburgh, off and concerning the sd through staine, Bearing dait the twentie ffyve of october, 1659 yires, w^t the right and dispositiune maide be the sd Joⁿ Kinkaid in favors of ye sd Robert Cumyng, off and concerning ye sd staine, Beirand dait the Twentie four day of

december, ye sd zeir. And also did informe That umqⁿ James Kinkaid, mer^d burges of Glasgow, his father in law, wha is brother in law to the sd defunct, was buried under the same staine, and the sd James Dalrumple, in Kirkintilloch, and utheris in his name, having producit seall testimonialls anent his relatioune To the sd defunct, Qlks varied in the subsnces y^of diverslie. And it being cleirlie verefeid and provine That the abovenamed Andrew Dalrumple was lauⁿ brother german to the sd defunct Joⁿ Dalrumple, and y^t the sd James could not mak good that (he) was neirer of kinn. It was therfor fund and declaired be ye sd deane of gild and his bretherine That ye forsd through staine does properly belong to ye sd Ro^t Cumyng, and swa to remaine w^t him as his awine proppertie in all tyme comeing.

Vigesimo octavo Novembris, 1661.

The sd day anent the clame persecuit by Joⁿ Cumying, merchand burges of ye said burgh, against Johne Andersoune, of Dowhill, lait provest of ye samyne burgh, makand mentioun That q^r the sd defender having intrometted w^t nyne hundreth ffour scoir nyne Rolles of Tobacco brought home in that guid schip callit the S Androwes of Glasgow, and brought up from ye sd schip to the Broomelaw in Boats, q^rin the sd defenders and his ptners had put in their awine keipers, in the moneth of Januarii last, or thereby, and befor the first divisioune of ye sd Tobacco, brought home in ye sd schip, as sd is, The sd Joⁿ Andersoune did sell Thrie scoir sex Rolles y^of To severall psones, ffor fourtie pundis scots the hundreth, some for reddie monye, and the rest y^of payable at ye xiii day of Januarii last bypast. Off ye q^lk thrie scoir sex Rolles of Tobacco, The eight pairt y^of did belong to the said compleiner Quhilk being callit wpon the day of last bypast, and the said Joⁿ Andersoune, defender, having then producit ane advoca^oune in the

sd mater ffor advocating y^{of}, from the sd deane of gild and his said Bretherin To the right hon^{oll} the Lords of Counsell and Sessioun, and this day the above named Joⁿ Cumying, persewar, having producit his sd clame w^t ane act of remitt given out theranent sen syne, The sd actioun and caus was agane callit, whilk act of remitt is grantit in his favors be the right hon^{oll} the Lords of Counsell and Sessioun, daitit at Edg^r, the nynt day of Nove^r now last bypast, Bearing that the said actioun was remittit be the sd Lords To be proceidit in be the sd deane of gild and his bryrin To the finall decision y^{of}, as they sall ansy^r to God in a good conscience The aforsd deane of gild and his sd bryrin of counsell, aftir dew advyce and delibera^{une} had y^{anent}, Be this their decreit and sentnce decernes and ordaines the sd Joⁿ Andersoun, defender, To content and pay to the sd Joⁿ Cumying, p^{sewar}, the sowme of ane hundreth ffytie eight pund Scots monye, as being the persewar's pairt of the pryce of such of the sd Tobacco as was sold be the sd Joⁿ Andersoun, defe^r.

Penultimo Januarii, 1662.

This day Hendrie Colhoun, wright, is ordainit to receive frae James Somervail, mer^d, the leid mylne, for glas windows, or glas vyce, he imployed him to bring from Holland laitlie, and to pay him y^rfoir Twentie fyve shilling ffor the pryce of ilk gilder he deburst y^rfoir of xxvii gilders.

Decimo Aprilis, 1662.

The sd day the provest, baillies, and divers of ye toun counsell being conveyned on the lands now in building be James Zuill, merchand, on the east syd of the Saltmercat Streit therof, anent ane laigh door q^{lk} goes off the closs with thrie stops douneward to ane cellar belonging to the sd James, And seeing that closs is ane

comoune vennell belonging to the toune, and gif it remaine as it was of befor, It cannot faill but will prove dangerous, and prejudiciall to all persounes repairing y^rintill, especiallie in the night tyme. And seeing the samyne was appoyntit of befor by the counsell to be closed, and he at desyre of some delayed, The aforsds provest and baillies, and uthers forsd, Having now visited the samyne as sd is, ordaines the sd James Zuill to suffer no step to be there aff the sd closs, goeing doune to the sd cellar, farder out nor the syd wall or drop q^rin ye entrie of ye sd cellar is now at this pnt.

Decimo nono Aprilis, 1662.

The qlk day ane Right reverend father in God, Androw, Archibishop of Glasgow; James, Earle of Callander; W^m, Lord Rosse; ane uther Reverend father in God, Ro^t, Bishop of ye Isles; Sir Ar^d. Stirling, of Garden, ane of ye Senetors of ye College of Justice; Sir James Conynghame; M^r Joⁿ Conynghame, advocat; M^r Androw Oswell, clerk to the Exchequer; M^r Alex^r Oswell, his sone; Captane Alex^r Auchinmutie, of Pirry, Ar all made burgess and gild brether of the sd burgh, and the haill liberties and priviledges belonging y^rto ar grantit to y^m, who gave y^r oathes, as vse is.

xxi Aprilis, 1662.

The same day W^m Cranstoune and Joⁿ Conynghame, Servitors to my Lord Cochrane, ar both maide burgess of the sd burgh, at requiest and desyre of ye sd Lord, y^r M^r, who hes given y^r oathes, as vse is.

Decimo nono Julii, 1662.

As also Joⁿ Inglis, tailzeor, is made burges gratis, and ye haill liberties belonging y^rto grantit to him, who hes given his oath, as vse is, and y^r at the desyre of W^m, Lord Cochrane.

Ultimo Septembris, 1662.

The qlk day The most noble and potent Earle, Johne, Earle of Midletoune, Claremont, and flettercairne, His Majesties High Comissioner ffor the Kingdome of Scotland, Is made burges and gild brother of the said burgh, and the haill liberties and priviledges belonging y^rto ar grantit; to him as also ane mightie and potent prince, Williame, Duk Hamiltoune, Chastelerout, Earl Arbroth, &c.; Earle of Aboyen; George, Earle of Linlithgow; Lord Livingstoune; Earle of Newburgh, Captane of His Majesties Lyfguard of hors; Joⁿ, Lord Sinklar; Sir Peter Wedderburne, clark to his majesties privie Counsell; Mungow Murray, Lovetennent to his majesties guard of horse; James Ogilvie, secretarie to the said comissioner, . . . and several other persons, their Servitors, . . . Ar all made burgess and gild brether of the sd burgh, and the haill Liberties and priviledges belonging y^rto, ar grantit to them frielie, who hes all gevin their oathes, as vse is.

Vigesimo quarto Aprilis, 1663.

The qlk day Johne Barnes, deane of gild, and with him Mr. Patrick Bell, ffederick Hamiltoune, Thomas Campbell, thrie of his bretherine of counsell, And W^m Cumyng, ane of the lait baillies of this burgh, who past to the grund of the lands vnderwrytten, At the desyre of the said deane of gild, And being all conveyned on the grund of the village called ffleymingtoune, Lyand within the territory of this burgh, In the eister comoune next adjacent to the Saygyholme, and hill adjacent y^rto, now occupyet be W^m Cowane and his twa sones, And y^r vpon ane complent maide be Adame Watsoune, now herele proprietar of the saids lands of flymingtoune, and Mairgat Tod, his mother, lyfrentrix y^rof; ffor y^t ye sd W^m Cowane, now dwelland in Cowlairs, and his sd sones, althow they have noe tack off the lands in comoune now possest be y^m, Hes most mailitiouslie at ther awine hands Teilled and Sawine ane considèrabill quantitie

off the hie comoune way That passes to the Bishopes brigs, and was never teilled heirtofoir, and hes teilled soe neir to the sd complainers' lands of flymingtoun That they have noe kynd of passage ffor goeing and comeing out, neither be themselves, ther tennents, nor ther cattell and bestiall, as formerlie, Seing the maist p^t of the bounds teilled and sawine as sd is, Is the very bounds they had for repairing to and fra ane well there ffor s^ving of ther famellies, and wattering of ther cattell and bestiall, Having the benefit of noe uther well q^somevir, Tharfore are greatlie prejudgit y^rby, and y^t the sd W^m Cowane and his sd sones had done manifest wrong in teilling any thing w^tout that dyck buildit about the eist end of the sd Saigyholme hill, Beyond the q^lk non of the occupyers and possessors of the saids lands, ther predecessors, never did soe come out, and the sd Adame Watsoune being ther p^{nt}, and being desyrit be the forsd deane of gild and his sd bretherine to produce his wrytes of the sds lands ffor cleiring the bounding y^rof, He did produce four seisings of his authors and predecessors, w^t his awin seasing of the samyn lands of fleymingtoun, Beiring the samyn lands to be boundit on the west, Toward the comoune hie gait y^t pass to the bishops brig. And the sd W^m Cowane and his sones being sent for, and nane of yame compeirand but Alex^r Cowane, ye youngest sone, quha grantit the teilling and sawing of the sd comoune gait, but could give noe kynd of reasone or warrand they had for doeing y^rof, And therefore the forsaid deane of gild and his said bretherine of counsell, Having weill weighed and considerit the said mater, and how y^t the sd W^m Cowane and his sds twa sones, or either of y^m, had noe tack of the lands they occupye in comoune, and far les of the piece grund complained upon, teilled and sawine as sd is, and y^t non of ther predecessors, nor they y^mselves, had any libertie to teill any lands in y^t pairt w^tout y^t dyck that is buildit about the end of the sd Saigyholme hill. As alsoe they, considering they had sawine the sd peice land contrair the said deane of gild his command,

He having dischargit y^m to doe the samyn, The above named Johne Barnes, deane of gild, and his said bretherine of counsell, and uthers forsd, Be this ther decreit and sentence, Inhibits and dischairges the said W^m Cowane in Cowlairs, W^m and Alex^r Cowanis his sones, that they, nor ney^r of y^m, nor noe vther persoune q'somevir, presume or tak vpon yame to teill any p^t of ye comoune loane neir ffleymingtoun, betuixt the dycks of ye sd village of ffleymingtoun and the forsd dyck buildit about the forsd eist end of ye sd Saigyholve hill; And finds the sd W^m Cowane and his sd twa sones in ane wrang, in what they have teilled and sawine off ye sd comoune loane as afoirsaid, And ordaines the samyn be sufferit to lie as comoune in all tyme heirefter; As alsoe they heirby grant licence and libertie To the said Adame Watsoune, and to ye sd Margret Tod, his mother, and to ther tennents and servands, to have als frie passage to and frae to the well ther, ffor serving of ther famillies and for'wattering of ther cattell and uther bestiall y^rat, and y^t throw the said bounds teilled and sawine as sd is be the forsd W^m Cowane and his sd sones, and alsoe to have frie ingres and regres ther throw in and to ther sd lands and well, as formerlie, without any kind of trubill or impediment q'somevir, To be made or done be ye said W^m Cowane, or his sds twa sones and servands.

Vigesimo tertio Novembris, 1663.

The qlk day ane noble and potent Marqueis, James, Marqueis of Douglas, Earle Angus, Lord Abernethie and Jedburgh forrest, is made burges and gild brother of the sd burgh, and the haill liberties and priviledges belonging y^rto ar grantit to him, who hes given his oath, as vse is. As also Lord James Douglas, youngest lau^t sone to umq^l W^m, Marqueis of Douglas; and lykwayes M^r Jon Crichtoun, governor to the sd noble Marqueis; M^r Mathow M^rKell, governor to ye sd Lord James; Joⁿ Douglas, sone to Sir Joⁿ Douglas of Barres,

s^rvitor to duck W^m Hamiltoun, as also W^m Douglas, paige to ye said noble Marqueis, are all maid burgess and gild brether of ye sd burgh frielie at desyre of y^r sd M^r, who hes gevin their oathes, as vse is.

Decimo quarto Januarii, 1664.

The sd day the deane of gild and his bretherine Being convined in the hous q^r Margret Greinlees dwells, in umq^{le} M^r Joⁿ Allanson's closs, it was found be y^m That ye said hous was all fallin in, and soe not habitabill, Qrfor ye sd dean of gild and his bryrin declairs it shall be leasome to hir to remove y^rfrae and tak another hous, and to be frie of ye rent fra lamas last.

Decimo septimo Martii, 1664.

The same day the deane of gild and his brethering of his counsall, sittand in judgment anent the supplica^{une} given in be Joⁿ Scot, mylne wright, Bearing that he does pntlie occupye and possess ane heigh foir hous, w^t brew hous and stabell, qlk some tyme belonging to umq^l M^r James Walkinschaw, and ye lyfrenter y^{of} is now in Irland, swa yat he can gait noe persoune to q^m he should pay the maill, nor yet to repair the land, althoe ye sd brew hous and stabell become altogither rowinous in thack and kabers, and will not faill to fall unless it be tymeouslie repaired; Craveand therfor ye sd deane of gild and his sd bretherine to sight and visit ye sds lands, and to ordaine the complaner to mend and repair the samyn upon the first end y^{of}, as the supplica^{une} mair fullie proportes. Qlk being called, and y^efter ye sd deane of gild and his bretherine Having sightit ye sd brew hous and stabell, They did find ye samyn very rowinous and lyklie to come to vter decaiy vnles it be tymeouslie repaired, and they having weill weighted and considerit the samyn, The sd deane of gild and his sd bretherine of counsell doe heirby

ordaine ye sd Joⁿ Scot, occupyer of ye sd lands, to mend and repair ye said brew hous and stabell in the decayed pth y^{of}, and y^t upon the first end of the maill of the samyn, and to doe it w^t diligence, ffor preveining farder decay y^{of}; And to give in to the liwners ane faithfull and trew compt, upon othe, quhat he deburss y^ranent.

Vigesimo secundo Aprilis, 1664.

The sd day Alex^r, Archbishop of Glasgow; Charles Maitland, of Hattoune, generall of his majesties mint; Joⁿ Veitch, younger, of daik; Collonell Orey, ane of ye captanes of his majesties lyfguard of foott; and M^r Joⁿ Bowie, ane of ye ordinarie ministers of this burgh, ar all made burgess and gild brether of this burgh.

Decimo sexto Junii, 1664.

The said day, anent the supplicatioune given in be James Thomsoune, chyrurgion, makand mention that whar Neill Thomsoune, skinner, burgess of this burgh, did sell and wadsett To Johnne Coutstoune, skinner, therof, ane laigh hous lyand wⁱⁿ this burgh, on the north syd of the bridggait therof, in umqⁿ George Muires close, and that under reversioun of ane certane soume of money; And trew it is the said Johnne Coutstoune sauld and disponit his right therof to the sd James Thomsoune, And now the said hous is becum so ruinous that it is likly to becum (un)inhabitable, and no maner of persoune will undertak to dwell therein, whill it be repaired; Crevand therfor the said dean of gild and his bretherine of counsell to sight and visit the samen dwelling hous and the decayed places therof, To the effect the supplicant may deburss what is necessar, and may the better get it allowit before the redemptioun of the saids lands from him, As the said supplicatioun mair fullie proports; Qlk being red and the said supplicant compeirand personallie, The

said dean of gild and his bretherine concludit to goe and sight the same hous mediatlie efter they did rys out of judgment. Quho having risin, went to the said hous, and efter sighting and visiting therof, It was found be them that ane of the pantries was brokin, and necessar it was to put up ane pantrie, and to fix sume forkes for the better vpholding thereof, They did find it als necessar that sume kabers through the haille roof should be fixt therin, in severall pairts wher it is decayed, and that the said hous be both beittit and mendit in the roof, and that they find ane glass window faltie and brokin, and that sume new lozens aught to be put therein, and that some brods should be hung vpone sume vther windows of the sd hous, And declairs thir things most be done for the better preservatioune of the said hous fra utter ruine, And that the said James aught to deburss therupon, and to give in his compt therof upon aithe, To the effect he may get the samen allouit to him befor the redemptioun of the said lands, and that he aught to be repayed of his expencis deburst heirupon Befor the redemptioun of the said lands.

Decimo Januarii, 1665.

The sd day conveyined Frederik Hamiltoun, deane of gild, James Campbell, Thomas Campbell, and sundrie vy^r of his bretherin of counsell, on the grund of ye lands of umqⁿ James ffaullis, on the north syd of ye Trongait, on complent made be divers of ye inhabitants and nighbors there, ffor y^t there is so manye vents and braces made adjacent to a gavill made of sclatt and cley in ane hous qlk somtyme pteined to Ro^t Wilsoune, and now to umqⁿ W^m Broune and Robesoune, his spous, qlk this last night throw that occasioun was sett on fyre, y^rby indangering y^t hous and uy^m y^rabout, Qlk being sightit be ye sd deane of gild and his sd bretherin, They decerned and ordained that no fyre be builded in any hearth of that gavill made of sclatt and cley, qⁿ a stone gavill be made in place y^rof.

Vigesimo tertio Februarii, 1665.

The said day James Ingrahame, younger, cowper, is made Burges of this burghe, as eldest lawⁿ sone to James Ingrahame, elder, cowper, burges therof, Qho hes payed to Thesaurer five pund Scots for his fyne, with five pund to John Barnes to buy armes, and hes given his oath of fidelitie, as vse is.

The said day, anent the complent of nightbourhead given in and persewed be Walter Colquhoun, merchand, burges of this burghe, against John Marschell and John Rowat, merchand, burges y^of, makand mentioune that q^r the said persewer and defendars hes ther lands lyand togither within this burgh, upon the west syd of the Streit y^of, narrest ye tolbooth above ye samyen. And trew it is that ther is ane sink that goes at the bak of the sd compleiners, and the afoirsd John Marshalls lands, betwixt and the sd John Rowats lands, and it hes bein the vse and custome of the said John Rowat, and his predecessors, and his tennents, to dight and keip the sd sink red and clein, and to convoy the water the ordinarie way, But it was so filled in this last frost, that when the thow began, the occupyers of the persewers twa laigh buithes was greatlie damnified and prejudged throw the defers default, by under water, and wer necessitat to remove ther goods out therof; Cravand therfor the said dean of gild and his sd bretheren to visit and sight the lands, and decerne upon the sd complent according to the laws of nightborhead and justice, as the said complent mair fullie propoerts; Qlk being red, the said dean of gild and his sd bretheren of counsell did thereafter pass to the grund of the sds lands, and ther they haveing sighted and visited the samyen, the sd compleiner and defenders being all present and at lenth hard to speik for themselves, The afoirsd dean of gild and his said bretheren of counsell, after matur advyce and delibera^une had theranent, Be this ther decreit and sentance, decerns and ordaines the sd Walter Colquhowne, persewar, to dight the sd sink and red it throwlie, once,

and that nether he nor his tennents of his heigh landes cast out any stroe, soupings, or rubish out of windowes therof, that the sd sink be not stoped herefter, and that so far as his lands extends to in lenth, and ordaines the sd John Rowat, defender, to dight the sd sink therafter in all tyme coming, and so to hold it red, and to make the thrie doores y^t is fixit betwixt his gavill on the north syd of his close and the sd foir lands, patent at all convenient occasiouns, ffor redding the sd sink, and that with both ther consents.

Quinto Augusti, 1665.

This day Williame Ardeis, merchand in Aberdein, being compleined upon, ffor y^t he, being a strainger, did sell and retail his comodities he brought to this toun, q^{as} he should onlie have sold y^m haill sail to friemen burgess within this burgh, q^{lk} he could not deny, ffor q^{lk} caus he was vnlawed and fyned in fyve pund Starling; And y^t for the tender respect this burgh caries to Aberdein and burgess therof, They have forborne the exacting of the sd unlaw, upon the sd W^m his promiss not to doe ye lyk, and y^rfor he is heirby actit, bund, and obleist that he sall not sell or retail any guidis heirafter, y^t he sall bring to this toune heirafter, To any strangers, but to burgess of this burgh in haill sail, vnder ye paine of ane hundreth punds so oft he contraveines, To be applyed to the vse of the poor. Be this act sub^t befoir witness, Ro^t Allan and Patrick Clark, writer, and Ro^t Speir.

(Sic sub^r) Wm. Ardes, Pa. Clark, witnes, Ro^t Speir, witnes.

Primo februaryi, 1666.

The same day it being decleared be the deane of gild that (he) was to goe toward dundie and y^raway, He appoyntit Robert Rae, ane of his bretherine to supplie his place the tyme of his vacancie till his returne.

Decimo tertio Noveris, 1666.

The qlk day The most Reverend fay^r in God, James, Archbishop of St. Androwes, primat and metrapolitan of Scotland, is made burges and gild broy^r of ye sd burgh.

Decimo quinto Novembris, 1666.

The qlk day, anent the clam p^{se}wit be M^r Joⁿ Herbertsone, pr^{or} fiscall of this burghe, and Georg Jonstoune, merchand burges y^rof, for his entries against Johne Killoch, merchand burges of the samyne, makand mentioun That q^r about ane year syne or theirby, the sd Johne Killoch did sell or dispone to the above named Georg Jonstoune seavine hunderethe eles of linyng cloath or thairby, conforme to xii.d. the ell of proffeit, as vse is, in the lyk barganes, amongst honnest men, noe altera^ounes of markes being to be maid efter the closing of the bargane; Qlk cloath was delyvered be the sd Johne, defender, to the sd Georg Jonstoune; Bot betwixt the making of the sd bargane and delyverie of the sd cloath, the sd Joⁿ Killoch, in ane cuning, cheiting way, altered the haill marks of the sd cloath put on be him at the buying thairof, and swa made the sd Georg Jonstoune to pay ane far greater and mair soume than he ought to have payit for the sd cloath, Contrare to all law, equitie, and conscience, qlk was noe way fair or honnest to on gildbrother to doe to ane vther, and thairfor the sd Joⁿ Killoch, defender, ought and sould be fyned and vnlawed in ane great soume of money, to be payit in be him for the vse of the poor, in example of utheres to committ the lyk; As also to pay to the sd Georg Jonstoune such ane modified soume as the forsd dean of gild and his brether sould think convenient, for making vp of his los susteined be him throw altering the markes of the sd cloath, as the sd clame mair fullie proportes. Qlk being called, the sd compleinares compeirand, and the sd Joⁿ Killoch, defender, being tryse (thrice) lawllie warnit be William Conynghame, off^{re}, oftymes called and not compeirand, lawll tyme of

day bidden, The aforsd dean of gild and his sd bretherine of counsell, efter mature advyce and delibera^oune had thairanent, They, be this ther decreit and sentence, ordaines the sd Johne Killoche, defender, to exhibit and produce his burges ticket this day eight days, to the effect the samyen may be disposit vpon, as the sd dean of gild and his sd bretherine sall think convenient, and farder vnlawes him in ffytine pund Sterling, qlk they heirby decerne the sd Johne Killoche to pay to the forsd M^r Johne Herbertsoun, pro^r fiscall, to the effect that Ten punds Sterling thair of may be given and applyed for the vse of poor, and vther ffyve punde Sterling money of the samyne to be given to the sd Georg Jonstoun, in satisfactioun to him of his loss susteand be him throw the markes of the sd cloath, and that becaus it was declared be the sd dean of gild in judgment, that the sd Johne Killoch, defender, had confest to him the changing of the markes of the sd cloath, as is above lybellit, and y^t he being thrys lawllie warnit, as sd is, dewlie verefeid in judgment be William Conyngham, off^r., was holdine pro confesso, and thairfor they decernit in maner as sd is.

Decimo Januarii, 1667.

The same day, anent the clame persewit be Thomas Glen, merchand burges of the sd burghe, against Johne Howie, skinner, burges y^rof, makand mentioun that q^r about twentie dayes preceeding december last, or thairby, the sdes persewar and defender meiting togither, the above-namit Joⁿ Howie, defender, did sell to the sd Thomas Glen, p^{se}war, als mutch fyne Hollandes lint, sufficient merchandable wair, to the value of threttie eight pundes four shilling Scots, conforme to seavine pund Scots the stone weight, and ye p^{se}war was to delyver to him ffourtine dussen of gloves, w^t ane pair of stockinges; and trew it is, that ye sd p^{se}war, conforme to his pairt of his agriement, delyverit ye sdes gloves and stockinges to ye sd Johne Howie, defender, And the sd compleinar having

fulfilled his pairt of the sd agriement, the sd defender did tak him y^rafter, and did let him hie some trasche qlk is not worth the name of lint, Qlk was refussit be the sd compleinar, it being altogether contrare to the sd defenderes ingadgement. . . . The sd persewar and defender compeirand both personallie in judgement, Ther reasones and allega^ounes being at lenth hard and considderit be the sd dean of gild and his sd bretherine, and they y^rwith being ryplie advysit, the forsd dean of gild and his sd bretherine of counsell be this thair decreit and sentance, decernes and ordaines the sd Johne Howie, defender, to render & delyver to the sd Thomas Glen, p^{er}sewar, als mutch guid and sufficient Hollandes lint, merchandable wair, and that be sight of the forsd dean of gild, or any other two of his bretherine whom he sall appoynt, to sight and trye the samyne, as the value of the sd threttie eight pundes four shilling, according to the sd seavine pundes per stone weight, and that becaus the sd defender compeirand, as sd is, grantit the sd bargane and his recept of the sdes gloves and stockinges, bot denyed he was to delyver the sd lint conforme to ye qualitie libellit, viz., guid and sufficient hollandes lint, merchandable wair, and the sd persewares clame as it stood being admittit to his proba^oune, he proved the samyne sufficientlie, be the depositions of divers famous witness, who wer receavit, sworne, and examinit y^rupon, and y^rfor the sd dean of gild and his sd bretherine decernit in maner as sd is.

Septimo Noveris, 1667.

The qlk day Joⁿ Walkinshaw, dean of gild, and bretherine of his counsell, sittand in judgement, anent the complent of nightbourhed persewit, be Joⁿ Dainzell, wright, ag^t Hendrie Crawford, merd, makand mentioun, that q^r the sd compleiner and defender hes ther lands lyand together wⁱn this burghe, a litle above the crose, and the west syd the hie streit thairof, and trew it is

that the sd defender hes built wⁱn his lands ane belconnie, q^lk is four hous heigh, and yet for as that the sd defender and his tennents makes ane comoune washing place upon the head of the sd belconnie, and throw occasione thair of does cast over at all tymes ane great hudge quantitie of water wⁱn the sd compleiners lands, as also castes over at all tymes thair soupings, ashes, and other excrementes wⁱn the sd compleners lands narrest to the sd belconnie, and is lyklye to mak the samyne vnproffitable to him in tyme coming; as also has yairby spoyled and wronged the sd compleiners buildit landes thair, as may be evidentlie seine and perceaved. Q^lk being called, the sd complenar and defender being both personallie in judgement, it was appoynted be the sd dean of gild and his sd bretherine to sight and visit the sd lands, q^upon they went pⁿtlie out of judgement to the said lands; And thair having sighted the samyne upon occasiune of the sd complent, and finding that thair is ane belconnie buildit wⁱn the sd defenders lands, as is alledgit, and that it was confest be the sd Hendrie, defender, that thair hes bein some water cast over the sd belconnie, bot yat it did fall wⁱn his awine closs; Swa, after considera^une had y^anent be ye sd dean of gild and his bretherine, they, be this ther decreit and sentance, decernes and ordaines the sd Hendrie Crawford, defender, that neither he, his tennents, nor thair servants cast any water, ashes, sowpeings, excrementes, or any thing of that kynd, heirafter, over the sd belconnie wⁱn the sd compleinars bounds, bot that they decist and seas fra doing y^of in all tyme heirafter, and y^t under ye paine of ffyve merks Scots money, to be payit be the sd defer to the forsd compleinar how oft, and soe oft, he or his tennents sall doe in the contrair, in tyme coming.

The sd day, anent the complent of ny^tbourheid persewit be Hendrie Crawford, merd, ag^t Joⁿ Dainzell, wright, makand mentiune that q^r the sd compleiner and defender hes y^r lands lyand contigue

together upon the west syd of the hie streit of this burghe, a little above the croce, and trew it is that the sd Joⁿ Dainzell, defender, hes buildit some lands thair, in the qlks ther are some ovalles in the laighe hows, qlks, conforme to the lawes of this burghe, owght and sould be glassit throwlie, bot are not soe, Q'by ane great deal of reik comes out y^rat wⁱn the sd compleinars closs, the tyme qⁿ the defender and his tennents makes use of his brewhous thair, that noe maner of personnes can repair wⁱn the sd closs, to the sd compleinars g^t skaith, and discontent of his haill tennents. Qlk being called, the sd compleinar and defender being both personallie p^{nt}, the sds dean of gild and his sd bretherine of counsell, went p^{nt}lie to the grund of the sds landes, and thair sighted and visited the sds ovalles, and finding them not to be glassit as they owght to be, they, after mature advyce and delibera^une had y^ranent, be this thair decreit and sentance, decernes and ordaines the sd Johne Dainzell to glass his sd ovalles, and swa to keip and hold them soe heirafter, to the effect the sd compleinar and his tennentes may receave no hurt or damadge therby, heirefter, throw the reik that comes out of the sd defenders brewhous, qⁿ they mak vse thairof, and swa to keep and hold them swa glassit, throw and throw, according to the lawes of ny^tbourhead wⁱn this burghe, observed in such caices, vnder the paine of ffourtie shilling, how oft and soe oft as he sall contraveine.

Decimo Nono Junii, 1668.

The qlk day, in p^{ns} of Johne Andersoune, provest, and Johne Walkingshaw, dean of gild, M^r Charles Mowatt, appothicare, is made burges of this burghe, frielie, and y^t at the requiest and desyre of the Archbishope of Glasgow, and the lord Lie, who has given his oath, as vse is. After this, be warrand of counsell, daitit the eightine day of Sep^{ber}, 1669, The clerk is warranded to give out yis burges ticket as if ye full fynes wer payit.

Primo Julii, 1668.

The qlk day, in pns of Joⁿ Andersoune, provest, and Joⁿ Walkinshaw, dean of gild, M^r Robert Napier, appothicare, is made burges of this burghe, frielie, and y^t at the earnest requiest and desyre of the Marquies of Montross and the Archbishope of Glasgow.

Sexto Maii, 1669.

The sd day, the forsd dean of gild, with James Pollok, Joⁿ Cauldwall, Joⁿ Hall, and Patrick Bryne, ffour of his bretherin of counsell, sittand in judgment, Alex^r Leckie, maltman, is decernit in ane wrang, ffor his most unjust teilling of his neighbors sawine lands, on both syds of ane halfe aiker of land he hes in tak of the Colledge in Cropnestok, qlk he confessed, and sd the prinⁿ bad him doe it, and y^rfor he is vnlawed in ffyftie punds, and ordained to remayne in ward qⁿ y^t be payit.

Nonò Deceris, 1669.

The sd day, the sd deane of gild and his sd bretherine being conveyned wⁱⁿ the hie church yaird, at desyre of Ro^t Allane, mer^d, ffor himselfe, and in name of James Wilsoune, skipper, his fay^r in law, and in name of M^r Ro^t and W^m Selkrigs, wrytters, Craveand ye sd dean of gild and his bretherine to designe and pairt off ye said church yaird dyk, for to be repaired and build be y^m, y^t they may have ane buriell place y^r, for bureing of y^r dead; And ye sd Ro^t having producit ane Act of Counsell, daitit ye seavintine day of March, 1666, granting licence to him and his sd fay^r in law to build ane peice of the sd dyk, to ye effect forsd, and he having also declared y^t the sd M^r Ro^t and W^m Selkrigs intend to build w^t y^m, The aforsd dean of gild and his sd bretherine designed and appoynted y^m, and ilk ane of y^m, to build als much of ye sd dyk, for the effect forsd, as vyrs hes done ye lyke, and y^t at ye north

wast end of ye sd church, not yet build, southwards from ye tomb or buriell place y^r, builded be Mannasses Lyk, toward ye yeard-yet and entery to ye sd church zaird, directly at ye wast end y^rof.

Decimo Sexto Junii, 1670.

The samyne day decernes Coline Campbell, merchand, called Coline Oy, and Jonet Patersoune, relict of umq^{le} Walter Neilsoune, to content and pay to John Leckie, merchand, the sowmes of money fallowing, for the causs after speitt—viz., The said Coline Campbell the sowme of ffyftie twa punds, Scots, restand of the pryce of certane wyne, bought and receaved be him fra the persewar and his partenners, of the grouth 1668; The sd Jonet Patersoune the sowme of ane hundreth and ffourtie punds, restand lykwayes of the pryce of certane wyne bought and receaved be her fra the persewar and his partenners, of the grouth above wryttin. Pro confessis. James Park, off^r.

At the end of this volume the following entry occurs:—

ffallowes the names of theis psounes who ar readmittit Burgess and Gildbrether, conforme to the tenor of the Act of Counsell sett doune on the Twentie sex day of Maii last by-past, ffor readmitting of all who wer admitted in the Vsurper's tyme, To the effect they may give their oath of ffidelitie to our Sovereigne Lord, the King's Majestie, In respect they had not done the lyk at their admissioun,

and the following four persons are readmitted—viz.:—

Vigesimo sexto Junii, 1662.

Hugh Neisbit, merchand, pnt the^r of this burgh.

Decimo tertio Augusti, 1662.

Johne Boill, merchand.

Vigesimo nono Septembris, 1668.

Walter Colqoune, merchand.

xxi Dec^r, 1675.

James Colqoune.

MINUTES OF THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

THE following Minutes and Resolutions of the Merchants House of Glasgow, from the earliest date at which a Record of the proceedings of the House appears now to exist, are excerpted as illustrative of its Constitution and Functions, its Property and the Charitable Foundations which it administers, the matters which from time to time have formed the subject of its deliberations, and generally, its History and Progress to the present time.

The earliest Minute extant of the Merchants House as a Corporate Body is that engrossed at the commencement of the first Guild or "Gold Book," and is as follows:—

Glasgow, the last day of Januare, 1659.

The quhilk day James Campbell, Dean of Gild of the said Burghe, w^t John Bell, present Provost, Frederick Hamiltoun, and Robert Rae, bailleis, being convenit in the Merchandis Hospitall, w^t the far most pairt of the wholl merchand rank of the said Citie, Anent the re-edifieing of the fabrick of the said Hospitall, Being for the present in ane decayeing conditione. They did all therefor in on unanimous voice agree and conclude, That ther be ane contributioun for that end throughe the wholl merchandis of this Citie for the casting downe of the foir fabrick, rebuilding therof, and building of ane Steiple, and buying into the Hous Ro^t Wooddrowe, his tenement of land nerest to the said Hospitall, upon the east, for inlarging the foir front therof, Provydit always that what shall be contribute be imployit upon the foir wark, and it first buildit; And for that end appoyntit James Barnes, Harie Glen, W^m Coming, Androe Gibsone, Thomas Davidsons, Charles Graye, and John Parland, or any Thrie of them to joyne w^t the Dean of Gild, or any aue of the

foresaidis bailleis, To goe to everie merchand, to the end he may, under his hand, if he can wryt, or if not, ane nôtar for him, in this Book subscribe what he will contribut to the re-edifieing of the said foir wark, and buying the said tenement, Whose names ar to remaine in Recorde heirin to future ages, That if it shall happen, the Contributoris, or any of ther relatiounes or friendis, being of the merchand rank of this Citie, to be in distress, They may be first preferit to have supplie of the hous, as ther necesitie shall requyre, and the ordour and custome of the hous shall permit; And those who shall be markit as refracter from contributing, To be debared in all tyme coming therfra; And heirby as they shall condiscend to, They obledge themselves to pay ther pairts upon demande to the Collectour of the said Hospitall, whose declairing under his hand at their subscrip^one of pay^t maid to him, shall be to the Contributor ane sufficient discharge, as witnes thir pntis subscribit be me at Comand of the saidis merchandis.

(Sic. Sub^r) R^t Goveane, Clk.

THE RECORDS OF THE GILDRIE.

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE BOOK.

CHRISTO JUNGUNTUR. SUA QUI PRÆCEPTA SEQUUNTUR.

Att the Merchands Hospitall, the Elevent day of October,
1676 yeirs.

The qlke day In the sd Hospitall conveynd Frederick Hamiltone, Dean of Gild, with the proveist and Baillies of the merchand ranke, and the brethring of the Dean of Gilds Counsell of the merchand house, for the most pairt present, For making choyce of three of thir number, to be sent to the Comon Counsell of the burgh on Lyt, that out of them, on might be electit to serve as Dean of Gild till the

ordinary tyme of electione, They by plurality of votts electit Ninian Andersone, Robert Campbell, yo^r, and John Johnstone, laite baillies, Three of ther number, to be presentit to the Counsell, to the effect above wr̄yn; And ordained the s^d Lyt to be presentit by Ro^t Campbell, eld^r; And ordained the persones after named of the Merchant ranke to be present att the Counsell to vott to the electione in balence w^t the deacons—viz^t, John Lowke, eldest, John Lowke, elder, James Bogill, Jon Orr, James Biskett, Androw Gibbons, Ro^t Saunders, Ro^t Corse, John M^cEwn, William Wallace, David Scott, and George Campbell; Conforme q^unto the Magistratts and Counsell, and vyrs, voyters in the sd electione, by plurality of votts Elected the said Ninian Andersone to officiat as Dean of Gild for the yeir enseuing.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the twelt day of October, 1676 yeirs.

The qlke day Frederick Hamiltone, laite Dean of Gild, In respect the s^d Ninian Andersone, present Dean of Gild, was furth of the Countrie, continowed the persons underwr̄in, Counsellors of the laite Dean of Gild, to be Counsellors for ane yeir to come—viz.,

James Campbell, proveist.	John Lowke, elder.	John Leckie.
M ^r Patrick Bell.	John Lowke, yo ^r .	John Bready.
John Barnes, baillie.	John Lowke, youngest.	John Stirling.
John Bell, laite proveist.	George Johnston.	James Biskett.
Frederick Hamiltone.	James Bogill.	Marcus Marschell.
Ro ^t Campbell, yo ^r .	George Campbell.	William Gray.
John Andersone, elder.	John M ^c Kewn.	James Armour.
John Andersone, yo ^r .	John Barnes, yo ^r .	David Scott.
John Johnstone.	Androw Gibbons.	William Murehead.
Hew Neisbit.	Robert Corse.	W ^m Wallace.
James Kerr.	James Ready.	John Orr.
Robert Campbell, elder.	John Gillhagie.	John Neisbit, yo ^r .
Collein Campbell.	Alex ^r Knox.	Ro ^t Saunders.
John Campbell.	John Brysone.	

The sd day, the Dean of Gild and his brethring of Counsell for most pairt being conveyned, for electing four of ther number to be

ordinary Lyners, for the Merchant rank, for the year ensewing, They, by plurality of votts, efter Lyts maid, elected and choysed—

Frederick Hamiltone, laite Dean of Gild.
 Collein Campbell, of Blythswood.
 Ro^t Campbell, laite Baillie, and
 Ro^t Corse.

to be four ordinary Lyners for the Merchant ranke for a yeir to come.

The sd day, by plurality of votts, ye Clerke and Officer are continowed for a yeir to come.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the 31 of October, 1676.

The qlke day James Biskett, Collector of the sd Hospitall for the last yeir, maid his accompt of the commone goods and caswalties, belonging to the sd Hospitall, since the setting of his last accompt, In Chairge and discharge, as fallowes:—

The Chairge and Intromissione of James Biskett, with the comone goods of the Merchants Hospitall, from Nover., 1675, to November, 1676.

(The following is an abbreviate of the Collector's Account, showing the different sources of the yearly Revenue and Expenditure of the House, which, in the original Minute Book, are given in considerable detail.)

CHAIRGE

Imprimis the residue in my hands att the last account	
making,	0479 00 00
Sundry Bands and @ rent y ^t of,	9890 00 00
Rent of Craig's Park and Boge buckie,	2222 08 00
Rent of S ^t Enoch's croft,	86 05 00

	2308 13 00

Carry forward,	12677 13 00

Brought forward, . . . 12677 13 00

Chairge of Ground Annuellis, viz.—

Lands in Stockwell for anno 1674 and		
1675,	32 12 04	
Lands in Brigaite, do.	140 18 08	
Lands above the Crosse, do.	5 07 00	
Lands in Trongaite, do.	8 04 00	
Lands in Saltmercatt, do.	7 06 04	
Lands in Gallowgaite, do.	3 07 00	
Lands in Spoutmouth, do.	0 12 00	
Lands in S ^t Enoch's croft, do.	15 10 00	
Lands in Wester Wynd, do.	1 00 00	
Lands in Drygaite, do.	4 17 04	
Lands in Vennell, do.	1 10 00	
Lands in Westport, do.	0 16 00	
Lands in Eastport, do.	0 12 00	
Lands in New Wynd, do.	10 13 04	
Lands in Cowloane, do.	10 00 00	
Lands in Bargaite, do.	1 00 00	
Lands in Greyfriar Wynd, do.	8 00 00	
Lands in Craignestock, do.	1 00 00	
	253 06 00	
For Sale of old Mortclothes, &c.,	106 13 04	
Charge of Mortclothes restand fra the last account,	11 10 00	
Charge of Mortclothes this yeir,	264 16 04	
Bucket money,	110 00 00	
Charge of Gratuities,	11 05 11	
Charge of what Gild brothers fynds was resting in the last account,	850 00 00	
Charge of Gild brothers fynds the year,	458 02 00	
Charge of Prenteises,	26 13 05	
Summa of the whole chairge is	14770 00 00	

DISCHARGE AND EXONERATION.

By not pay^t of Bands—

Sundry Bonds and interest thereof, 8633 00 00

By not pay^t of Land rents—

Craigs Park and defalcation, by order, 873 14 00

Carry forward, 9506 14 00

Brought forward,	.	.	9506 14 00
By not pay ^t of Gildbrother fynds,	.	.	672 00 00
By ordinary and extraordinary depursements—			
Manse Rent to Minister of Barony,		}	675 03 02
Dressing and Repairing Mortclothes,			
Repairs on Hospital, Building dykes, at Craigs			
Parks and Boge buckie,			
Coals, Candles,			
Salaries, and collecting ground annuals,			
Lands of Broomlaw purchased from Rob ^t Maxwell,	.	.	1100 00 00
By not pay ^t of ground annuells,	.	.	98 04 00
By payment of Quarterly pensions,	.	1521 00 00	
Monethly pensions,	.	39 12 00	
Supplicants by warrend,	.	453 06 00	
			2013 18 00
Summa of the whole dischairgeis,	.		14065 19 02

The s^d day Frederick Hamiltone, late Dean of Gild, and most p^t of the Dean of Gild his brethring; In regaird the dean of Gild himselfe was furth of the kingdome, haveing compared and considered the comp^t befor sett downe, find the samen to extend in chairge to Fourtein thousand seven houndreth and seventy pounds, and in dischairge to Fourtein thousand sixty fyve pounds nyntin shilling and two pennyes, Swa thir rests in the laite Collectors hands the soume of Seven houndreth and four pounds ten penyes, qch he is to pay in to the new Collector, And approves and allowes of the accomp^t above wrin in chairge and discharge, as sd is, And ordaines the samen to be bookit.

August the 5th, 1678.

The qlke day the dean of gild and Magistrates of the mer^t ranke and members of the mer^t ranke of the dean of gilds counsell, for most p^t present, It being proposit that ten shillings Scotts should be addit to the present excyse, for ilke maske of malt, for inabling the toun to bear the burding of the supplie grantit to his Matie,

They all w^out variance accedit that thir should be ten shilling addit to the present excyse of ilke maske of malt, Induring the hail tyme of the supply, Beginning furth this day; and ordaines ane act to be maid y^on, and the samen representit to the comone counsell of this burgh.

The sd day it being considered that the pensions and outgivings of the house extends yeirly to nyntein hundreth and punds, and that thir yeirly rent was only Fourteen hundreth and punds, q^uby thir depursements exceidit ther incomes in 500 lib. yeirly, and finding that by this the house Stocke will decay and become unusefull to the poore in short tyme; Therefor, for preventing y^of in the mean tyme, till it pleas God to incress the house stocke, They have defaced and retracted ane just third p^t of all monethly and q^uterly pensiones dew out of the house to q^usver persones, and ordaines ane act to be maid heiron, to begin for this lambes quarter.

Jar^d 16, 1861.

Supplic^aune David Monteith and John Cuming, taksmen of the Craig's Park.

My Lo/ dean of Gild and brethren of the mer^t Ranke, Unto your Lo/ humblie meanes and showes, We David Monteith and Joⁿ Cuming, yor Lo/ takesmen of the park of wester craigs, That q^u it is notarlie knowen to yor Lo/ and Predicessors That the samen park was taken at a verie dear rate, and we haveing in the barne and barne yeard a considerable quantatie of victuall Qrw^t wee intended to pay yor Lo/ q^u bygone rents wee war owand in summer last, The tyme of the rebellione, Trew it is and of veritie, And it is also notar to sowme of yor Lo/ That we sustained great prejudice and skaith, of first by pties sent from Lanrick, next by the rebells, and efter them by the King's forces, who, w^out any order or Licence, came at thir pleasure, q^utered in the park, did draw the stables, trampled, spoiled, and brocked the corne, took of q^u was readie thrashine to y^r horse in great quantaties, and sent y^r horse upon ye growing grass and corne, and trampled and abused the same w^out controlment, most shamfullie, ther being seven score of the rebells horse on the grass and corne, four nights, besyd the King's troupe and vyr troupes and Companies of dragounes, and by the proveist order y^r was at one tyme nyne boolls corn given and a command to lett none of the King's troupe want corne, for qlke we never got any satisfacti^one, and these who wor wont to put y^r horse and vyr beasts in to the park for pay^t, throw the iniquitie of the tyme

war forcit to put away y^r beasts out of the way, from being taken away aither by the ane ptie or the other, Q^throu the grass this last seisonne was almost good for nothing to us, of all q^{ch} skaith and damage we can hardlie give a particular accomp^t, Bo^t judges ourselves to be loosers in more than a thousand pounds worth, one way and vyr, and having nane bot yor Lo/ to qom wee can complane, we wold humblie beseek yor Lo/ to consider our great loss and damage in this public calamitie, and to give such allowance for the samene, in the first and of our bygone take dewties, wee are oune of, as may put us in a capacitie to pay the rest and continow yor Lo/ taksmen, and yor Lo/ ans^{rs} wee humblie beseek.

March 2nd, 1681.

The dean of gild and brethren electit be him, viz., Ninian Andersoune, bailzie, Frederick Hamiltoune, Joⁿ Brysone, Ro^t Corse, Joⁿ Walkinshaw, yor, James Corbet, and Joⁿ Jonstoune, laite bailzie, haveing hard the supplicatⁿ In relatione to the premiss, and considared ther looss, they have modified and allowed to them, in consideraⁿe y^rof, and of the height of y^r tak dewtie, the just and equal of y^r rent, crop 1679 yeirs, to be defaced and allowed to y^m be the collector, for q^{ch} this sall be his warrand, Sub^t be the dean of gild and by the clark of his hous. Sic Sub^r. Ro^t Campell. Jo. Grahame, clark.

The twentie fyft day of October, 1683 yeirs.

Halyrud House, the twelvt day of September, 1683.

The Lords of his majesties privie Councell having considered ane address maid to them by the proveist of Glasgow, for explaining the laite Act of Parliament, Intituled, additional act concerning the test, In the case of dean of gilds of burghs, ther Leitters or Electores, and Councell and Clark, whether or not they are oblidge to take the test, The Lords doe find that as the deacone conveyiner and deacones of trades within burghes, and ther Electores or Leitters and Clarkes are oblidge to take the test, so also the dean of gild and his Councell, and the Leitters or Electores of them, and ther Clark, ought to take the test before the magistrates of the seall burghes, before ther rexive Electiones.

Att the Merchands hall, in the Citie of Glasgow, the thretten day
of March, ane thousand six hundreth and eighty fyve years.

Conveened the Dean of Gild of Glasgow, with his brethren of the
incorpora^{un} of mēds, And it bein proposed to him That ane humble
and heartie address be made to his Sacred Majesty by the Magistrates
and commone Counsell of ys City, shewing their deep sence of the
great and unspeakable loss Q^{ch} they and all oys, the good subjects
of his Kingdome, susteained by the decease of our most Gracious
laite Sovereign, King Charles the Second, of ever blessed memory,
And congratulating his pnt Majesties happy successione to the imperiale
Croune of his Royall Ancestors, and asserting the humble loyalty and
dutie of this City to his Sacred Maj: and all his concerns, And imploring
his Maj: gracious countenance and favor to this City, They doe, in all
humble dutie and respect, most heartilie and cheerfully concur in the s^d
address, so to be maide, And ordaine ther s^d concourse and consent y^rto
to be recordit in ther books and ane act maide y^rupon.

Att the Mert^s Hospitall, the day of Nover, 1686 years.

The qlk day conveyined Joⁿ Barnes, proveist, with George John-
ston, Dean of Gild, and bretheren of the mer^t rank, And y^r the sd
John Barnes exhibit, produced his Matie's Letter, Q^rby it was his
Matie's royall will and pleasour that Robert Campbell, lat Dean of
Gild, should officiat as Dean of Gild for the year to come, To q^{ch}
the haill members of the mer^t rank gave all dewtifull obedience in
electing the sd Ro^t Campbell, dean of Gild, till the next ordinary
time of electione.

Att the Merch^{ts} hospitall, the 25 day of Nov., 1692.

It is appointed by the dean of gild and remanent members of
the hous, y^r if any of the dean of Gilds bretherine, lawllie warned, sall
absent ane meeting, that they sall be fyned in ane dallor.

Att the Merts Hospitall, the day of Nover., 1693 yeirs.

The qlk day the dean of Gild and Magistrates of mert rank, and yr brethrin in Counsell, of the sd rank, being conveyined, It was reported to ym that some of the bakers of the sd burgh had refused to pay ye ladles, usit and wont, and had raised a process befor the Lo/ of his Matie's privie Counsell ag^t the Mgra^{ts}, for exacting yrof, and calumniously alle^t they have bein opprest, and the sds ladles have bein exacted from them against right, qrb^y the rent of ye ladles, qch is a consederable part of the revenue of this burgh, will not onlie be diminished, but the Mag^{ts} will lye under the calumnie of oppression and injustice, and yrfor crave ane advice from the dean of Gild, his brethren, and Counsell, that they insist in the process against the sds baxters, for asserting and declaring the townes right, and vindicating the mag^{ts} of the sd reproach; The sd dean of Gild and his bretherine, for themselves, and in name of the haille merchant rank, all in one voice, Declared that the magistrates and comon Counsell ought to prosecut and follow furth the sd proces vigorouslie and effectually to the finall end and decision thairof, also well to assert and establish the townes right of the ladles, as for the magistrates vindicatioun, in manner foresaid; and ordained this act to be insert in their books, as in testimonie of yr willingness and advice, as said is.

Att the Merts hospitall, the sext day of Aprile, 1694.

Qlk day the dean of gild and bretherine, and many moc of the mer^{ts} rank, being mett to consider of buying ane p^t of the lands of Ramshorne, and haveing dewlie considered yron, they all w^t one consent voted that the hospitall should take the equall half of the sd^s lands, and concur w^t the ptie that are to take the other half, and for y^t effect grants warrand to the D Gild, and any other of the sd merts rank he pleas to call, to conclude the sd bargane, and perfyte the papers, and ordaines this to be insert in the book for y^r warrand.

And furder, the s^d day the hous appointed John Bryssone and John Simpstone to meet with twa of the trades hous, to consider the rolls, for the stent of therteane dallor upon the head of the fenceable men, as the hyre of the Fourtie ffour men to be put out by the toune of Glasgow in this new levie, That the hous may be satysfied for the extent of the s^d new stent.

The 28 day of Nov^r, 1694.

The sd day they appointed James Peadie, late Proveist, John Spreull, W^m Arbuckle, Thomas Peter, W^m Corse, George Lockhart, W^m Walkinshaw, W^m Crawford, and James Walkinshaw, to meet and consider anent the Eight pennies out of the pund of Seamens wages, laid on for supporting the poor and decayed Seamen.

Att the Merch^{ts} hospitall, 20 Octer, 1695.

The qlk day the dean of gild and bretherine and counsell being mett, and taking to yr consideratioune, that they had appointed the dean of gild and his Coll^r to borrow the soume of Four thowsand fyve hundred and Eleven merks, twa shilling, four pennies, for pay^t of the thirld part of the lands of Meadowflatt and Ramshorne, purchased be them, qch was accordinglie done and payit; And in regaird the magistrats and toune counsell of the sd burgh have made ane proposeall to the dean of gild and his sd bretherine, Desireing him to meet the hous, and sie if they would quitt yr 3^d p^t of the sds lands in favors of the toune of Glasgow, to the effect they might dispone the propertie of the sam in favors of Hutchesounes Hospitall, and retaine the Superioritie of the sds lands for the behoove of the toune, Qch proposeall being duellie considered, and they finding that they could not retaine the propertie of the sd thrid part of the sds lands, w^{out} involveing the hous in debt, qch would retrench and diminish the ordinarie gratuitie and allowance payed to the poor members of the sd

incorporation, They thairfor unanimouslie quitt yr sd 3^d p^{ts} of the sds lands in favours of the Magistrats and toune counsell of Glasgow, and committee yrof, They being allways oblg^t, by yr acceptatioune of the benefits of this Act, to pay the fors^d soume of Four thousand fyve hundred and Elevein merks, twa shilling, four pennies, as the price of the 3^d p^t of the sds lands, w^t the @ rent yrof since the advance of the money, qch was at Whitsoneday, Javy, nyntie four years, and the charges and expens of the writes necessar for denuding the hous of the fors^d right in favours of the toun, in maner above mentioned; and ordaines this to be engrost in ye books.

Att the merchants hospitall, the 4th day of March, 1696.

Qlk day the dean of Gild and bretherine, and many more of the merchant rank being conveaned, the Dean of Gild represented to the hous that the Magts and toune Cysell of Glasgow, Haveing considered the fourtie second act of his Maties last Sesseoune of Parliat, Intituled Act allowing the administrators of the comon good of Burrows to adventure yr stocke, or any part yrof, in the Company of fforeign trade; And being willing to advance trade as much as in them lyes, especiallie for so good and profiteable a designe, And being readie to doe everie thing in relatioune to the publ^t, w^t consent of both houss, The dean of Gild yrfor desired the advice of the hous qther it was yr opinion the mag^{ts} should put in any of the comon goods of the sd toune in the sd pub^t Companie or not, To qch it was unanimouslie aggried by the whole hous that they should put in, and recomended the quantitie to the magts and toune counsell of the burgh, But yr opinion was that they should put in Thrie thousand pund Sterl. at least.

And farder, the sd day it was unanimouslie agreed to by the whole hous that the dean of Gild and bretherine should put into the sd companie the soume of Ane Thousand punds Sterl., for the benefite and proper acco^t of the sd hous, and appointed the dean of Gild to subve

in the books of the sd companie for y^e effect; and ordained this Act to be inserted in ye book, and ane extract yrof, under the elks hand, to be givine to the dean of Gild for his warrand.

Att the Merchants Hospital, the day of
1698 yeirs.

The whilk day the Dean of Gild and Brethren, and a great many more of the Merchant Ranke of the sd burgh, Being mett and conveyned within the said hospitall, Taking to ther consideraⁿe That by the lawes and Acts of Parliament, speciallic by the Actes K. J. 3^d, par. 5th, cap. 27, and par. 14, cap. 105, Its ordained that all parties first pass for discussing of thir actiones and obtaining Judgement thereupon to ther Judge Ordinarie; as also, that ther is nothing mor just, orderlie, and naturall then that comburgess of the same burgh and citie should maintaine and promote the good order, benefite, and advantage of ther Societie and Comunitie by all lawful meanes and methods, whereof its manifestlie on, and that not of the smallest concerne and importance, both for the peace and profate of the place, That all questiones, grunds of actione, and differences of that kind should be composed and terminat within themselves, and by the powers and Jurisdictiones competent to the Societie, In so far as they may reach that end, without these fellow burgess ther going themselves or carrying others before extraneous Courts, whose Jurisdictiones are either doubtful or less compitent, at the exercise thereof in the formen^d caises, nothing so profitable and advantageous for the comon weill and utilitie of the fors^d Societie. Yet Notwithstanding whereof, pairtlic throw the ill advysed proceidings, and partlie throw the litigious and malicious humor of some of therselves, ther neighboures, and comburgess, Ther have been process Invented, raised, and prosecut be them against ther fellow burgess and others, befor the Bayllie of the Regallitie of Glasgow and oyr Judges, whose

Jurisdictione is either Incompitent, Doubtfull, or less proper for the saids Comburgess, and which process might have been more easilie and orderlie begun and endit befor the ordinary Courts and Jurisdictiones of the said burgh, Which tendeth not onlie to the manifest contempt and discouragement of the re^xive Magistrats and Judges of the burgh, ther Clerks, officialls, officers, and oyre dependa^u, But to the prejudice of the haill communitie, In respect these Judges and magistrats Doe actuallie apply the fynes, unlaws, and amerciaments of ther Courts for supplie of the poor, and for pious uses within the burgh. Therefore, The Dean of Gild and brethren, and a great many more of the merchant rank being conveyned, In manner fors^d, have, for themselves and ther whole members present and to come, unanimously agried that they, and all, and everie on of them, shall not for heirafter, directlie or indirectlie, move, Intent, prosecute, or persew, or cause to be moved, prosecuted, or persewed by themselves, or any others of ther causing, or whom they may laullie stoop, or let, or to ther behoves, any proces or actione whatsoever for debt, slander, wrong, Ryot, Blood, Remooving, or any other actione or proces, competent to be determined by the Magistrats, Judges, and re^xive Courts of the said Cytie, Befor the said Bayllie of regallitie, or any other Incompetent, Doubtful, forraign, or less proper Jurisdictione, But befor the saids ordinarie Magistrats, Judges, and Courts in the first instance, allenerlie, and farder, for making the said agriement effectual, They doe consent that the sam shall be presented and applica^one made to the Magistrats and Counsell of the burgh for passing ane Act and Statute heirupon, in good fforme, according to the power granted to the Magistrats and Counsell of the said burgh by their Charters under the great seall, To make such acts and statuts as may be conducing to the common weel and utilitie of the burgh, and that under such paines as the magistrats and town Counsell shall think fit. And, in lyke manner, To Represent to

the Magistrats and toun Counsell, That since the unanimous concourse and consent of the whole burgess and Inhabitants of the burgh of all Rankes, as well merchants as trades, is given to the effect above wryten, That they be cairfull for preserving our priviledges and liberties by all legall means and courses can be devysed, to keep us from the Incrothments of all forraigne Jurisdictione within this Cytie, Tending to the diminutione of the richts and priviledges, old and new, made in our favors, upon the expenss of the burgh; And the house ordaines this act to be ingrossed in ther books, as a testimony of ther hearty concurrence.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the 9th May, 1699.

The whilk day the dean of Gild and Brethren, and a great many moe of the merchant Rank, having mett and conveyed, It was represented by the Dean of Gild, That in obedience to the Acts of Parliament and Acts of Counsell, the Magistrats and toun Counsell were resolved to take some effectuall method for the maintenance of the poor, and desyred the dean of Gild and Brethren, and remanent members of the housse, ther advyce and concurrence theranent; Unanimouslie Resolved that the haille poor belonging to the Toun be maintained.

Resolved that fyve of the Merchants Rank be nominate and elected, to be Joyned with fyve of the Toun Counsell, fyve of the Kirk Session, and fyve of the Trades Rank, to make up the number of Twenty, Who are to meite and consider of the most expeditious way, and to cast on a subsidie for the maintenance of the poor, and to report the samyen to the Magistrats, Toun Counsell, and to this housse. The persones after-named were unanimouslie named, viz.:— John Brysone, eld^r, John Govane, W^m Wallace, James Bogle, Ro^t Dinwoodie.

Att the Merchant's hospitall the ninth day of Aprile, 1700 years.

The qlk day the dean of Gild and his bretheren of the mērt Rank having mett and conveyed, In obedience to ane act of Counsell of this burgh, of the date the sixth instant, of qch act the tenor followes :—

Att Glasgow, the sixth day of Aprile, 1700 years.

The whilk day the magistrats and toun Counsell conveyed, Taking to their considera^{ne}, That sealls of the Inhabitants have addressed the Dean of Gild of this burgh, for informa^{ne} anent the present stent laid on, The greatest part whereof is made up by the burghs of Baronie and Regalitie, their coming short of the Ten pound of the Barrowes tax roll, Laid upon them conforme to Mr. John Buchans Tack, att Dundee, and approven and confirmed by act of parliament, and of other things contained more particularly in the said address, Doe think fitt att the tyme, not only to give the Inhabitants full satisfaction of the cause and occasione of the said Stent, But lykeways of the manadgement of the common good of this burgh; Therefor, They hereby Recomend to the Dean of Gild and Deacon Conveener, To convey the hail re^{ve}xive Incorpora^{ne}s of Merchants and trades within this burgh, and make intima^{ne} thereof to them, To the effect They may receave informa^{ne} and satisfactiōne in the saids matters, and nominat and appoint such of their number as they please, to meet with the Provost or such of the Magistrats as shall name, To Revise and Consider the books and accompts of this burgh to the effect forsd.

And the Dean of Gild and his brethren of the merchant Rank, being resolved to Elect and choose six of their number, And having elected the samyne by plurality of votes, Hugh Montgomerie, James Wilkingshaw, John Graham, William Cross, John Govane, Thomas Peters, Three of which number being a quorum, They were appointed by the Dean of Gild and Counsell, to meet with six of the trades rank, To be chosen by the Deacon Conveener and his brethren, For taking inspectione of the publick account books of this burgh, as they are kept in debt and credit, In rela^{ne} to the hail revenues, yearly incomes, and casualties of the said burgh, and how the same has been expended by the manadgers of the Touns bussiness. And for that effect, after perusing of the said books of accounts and others relative to the towns hail bussiness, The forsd^a persouns are appointed to make a report of the whole, in write, under their hands,

against the next Court, and ordains the first meeting to be on tuesday next.

The 8th day of January, 1703 years.

The said day all wryters wyfes and ther children are ordained to be expunged out of the book, In regaird the wryrs in Glasgow keep a box for ther own poor, and give the Merchants poor no pairt yrof.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the 29 of May, 1703 years.

The whilk day the Dean of Gild and brethren, and a considerable number of the said rank, being conveyned anent ane parcell of dailles, consisting of fyftein thousand, or thereby, latlie imported from Norvey by Frederick Johnston and Michael De Rutor, merchants there, which dailles were offered to the Common Counsell of the burgh of Glasgow in the ordinar maner, Receavable at the mast, and the buyer paying the deutie yrof att portglasgow, The pryce payable to the offerer being forty nyne pund Scots per 100, ready money, Conforme to a signed offer under the Merchants and Masters hands, Dated the 13 Instant; Whilk being rejected by the Common Counsell, the pryce being too high, Therefor, the merchant and trades houses resolve each of them to take ther equall halfes of the saids dailles, payand charges, deutie, and expenss thereupon, amounting in haill the merchants pairte to Fyve thousand two hundreth and twelve pund, eightein shill.; charges includit. And it being putt to the vote in the houss whither to make a generall division of the haill dailles to every individuall member of the houss, or to roup the sam to those who would bidd most therefor, and the superpluss of the pryce bidden to be applyed for a gratuitie to the poor of the Merchants rank, James Corbal having bidden the pryce contained in the roup for six thousand of the said dailles, with a proportionable pairt of the 100 daile effirand thereto, with nyntie Rex dollors of gratuitie to the poor, and no bodie having out bidden him in the offer, the roup was cryed

out in his name, and he gave bond for pay^t of these daills and gratuitie.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the fourth day of October, Javyi and fyve years.

The whilk day the Dean of Gild and brethren, and most pairt of the haill trading Merchant rank within the Citie of Glasgow, being conveyned, and taking to ther serious considera^{ne}, that the said City, for Incuradgment of trade and accomodation of Mer^{ts} seallors and oysr exercising merchandise, navigatione, and oyr Employment, Depending therupon, In contemplatione and perseuance of the acts of parliament, Acts and Statuts of the Conventione of Royal burrows, Lawes, and daillie practiss of this Realme, made for Incuradgment of Royal Burrows, Whereby all ships and oyre Vessalls, coming to or from this realme, should loaden their goods outward, and unload or liver the same homeward, onlie att Royall burrows and seaports belonging therunto, Hes of late bestowed great and vast soumes of money, for purchasing the grund of ane seaport and harbor to the citie, att port-Glasgow, upon the river of Clyde, and hes therupon built a most safe and convenient harbor, with Lodgings, Sellars, and all oyr buildings necessar and convenient for loading, livering, preserving, and stouring all maner of goods, accustomed to be imported or exported furth of Clyde, with fitt and convenient habitationes for seamen, carpenters, and oysr, for building, dressing, and repairing of vessells, And for the residence of his Majesties Custome houss, and officere, and servants depending therupon, Notwithstanding whereof seall merchants within the Citie of Glasgow have, contrair to the sds lawes, and to ane obleidgment subscrivved by them of the date the thretten day of December, Javy and nynty two years, carried thir ships, Barques, and oyr veshells to seall harbors upon the s^d river of Clyde, and ther laid up the same, and drest them att the outreike therof, to the great detriment and discouradgment of the inhabitants of port-Glasgow, the shippers and

oyr mariners ressidng ther; For remeid wherof, the s^d Dean of Gild, his brethren, and rest of the merchant rank, Have Resolved and ordained, and Hereby Resolve and ordaine, That no Merchant within the said Citie shall, in tyme coming, lay up any of thir vessells, Dress or fitt out the sam, att any oyr port or harbor upon the s^d river of Clyde, But att port Glasgow allenarly, except in case of necessitie; In which caise they shall be oblidge to lay up, dress, and fitt the sam att ane Royall burgh; And that under the paines and penalties contained in the saids actes of parlia^t, and convention of Burrows, to be exacted of the contraveiners without any defalcatione; And they have ordained and hereby ordaine the above act to be ingrossed in thir Books for that effect.

Att the Merchands Hospital, the first day of November, Javyi and fyve years.

The whilk day the Dean of Guild, Magistrats, and hail merchant rank, being mett and conveyned in presence of ane Noble and potent Marquese, James, Marquese of Montrose, and Hugh Montgomerie of Busbie, John Grahame of Dougalston, Collin Campbell of Woodsyde, and John Walkingshaw of Barrowfield, fyve of the overseirs, nominate by the parlia^t, for overseeing the manadgement of the two pennies of the pynt of Imposition, granted upon all aill and beeir vended and sold within the sd burgh, for payment of the debts thereof, contained in the list underwryten; The said houss have nominate and appoynted, and hereby nominates and appoynts, the persons following, viz.:—William Walkingshaw of Scotstoun, Thomas Peiters, John Govane of Hoginfeild, James Corbett, Matthew Campbell, William Wallace, and John Spreull, all Merchants in the said burgh, to take inspectione of the list of debts underwryten, deu by the said burgh, conforme to the signed accomp^t thereof given in, and to call for the bonds, granted by the toun Counsell to the rexive Creditors, mentioned in the said list, of the whilk list the hail tenor follows.

Accomp^t of the prinll soumes dew by the Toun of Glasgow
by bond bearing @ rent.

Here follows a detailed List of the Burgh's debts, and of the parties to whom the same were due, amounting in all to £149,866, 13s. 4d. Scots.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the twelth day of November,
1705 years.

The whilk day and place above wryten, the houss have nominate and appoynted the persones following—viz., Hugh Montgomery of Busbie, John Graham of Dougalston, William Walkingshaw of Scots-toun, Matthew Campbell, Thomas Peiter, merts, John Govan of Hoginfeild, James Corbet, and John Spreull, merchants, to meitt with Sir John Schaw of Greenock, and treat with him in relatione to the preventing any difference or plea that may aryse betwixt the Burgh of Glasgow and Toun of Greenock, throu Greinnockes interfering with the trade of the said burgh, Betwixt and the first tuesday of January next, and any thre of the whole Committee to be a quorⁿ.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the nyntein day of October,
1708 years.

The whilk day the Dean of Gild and Magistrats of the said Burgh, with the brethren, making a quorum, being mett and conveyned anent a petitione given in to the sd Dean of Gild by the Magistrats of Elgin, for some assistance by way of Collectione and Incuradgements for Building ane harbor at the mouth of the water of Lossie, for Incuradgement of trade, northwards and southwards, and the question being putt, what should be given by the merts houss, Carried, nemine contradicente, give ane hundredth merk Scots.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the tenth day of October, 1709.

Resolved that the Dean of Gild purchase twenty five ackers of land betwixt and Stobcross.

Att the Merchants Hospitall, the 1st day of May, 1710.

And farder, its appoynted and recomendit by the houss that the present Dean of Gild, Thomas Peiters, John Anderson of Dowhill, John Bowman, James Peadie, and John Graham of Dougalston, Doe, or so many of them as the dean of gild can get conveyined, meite, In order to make a purchase of these ackers of land, Belonging to the Colledge, in the Broomilaw Crofts, with as much more land as shall be gote purchased towards Stoobcross, to the value of Twenty thousand pund, less or more, or elsewhere if these cannot be had.

Twentieth day of October, 1711.

The Dean of Gild having Represented that James Govean, mer^t in this burgh, had mortified the sum of _____, for the use of seven poor men of the merchant rank, Resolved that James Govane have the thanks of this house returned him for his liberality, And that he be offered, in the houses name, his picture att length, to be sett up in the house, with a suitable Inscription, as testimony of their Respect and gratitude.

Merchants Hall, 16th Ap^l, 1712.

The Dean of Gild and a gréat many of his Councill, and severall persons of ye Mer^t rank Conveined, upon account of ane offere of 8,000 Drunton Daills, and seventy two barrels Tarr, the daills att five pounds Sterling ye hundred, and ye Tarr att 16/8th ye barrell, ready money, and ye buyer to pay all duty and charges in ye road of Port Glasgow, made to ye Toun Councill by Matthew Craford and Hugh Warden, and by ye said Toun Councill remitted to the house and to

ye Trades House to Consider the said offer, and after reasoning thereon and Considering thereof, they refused the offer as too deare.

Merchants Hall, 18 of Apr^l, 1712.

The Dean of Guild and his Councill, and Sundry of ye mer^t rank Conveined, Considered a renewed offer of ye sd daills, att £4 15/ ye hundred, and ye tar att 16/8th ye barrell, mentioned in ye last days sederunt, And a new recommendation and remitt of ye sd offer to the House, And after some debate yron the question was put, accept or refuse ye offer, and Carryed, Refuse the offer as too deare.

Merchants Hall, 1 January, 1714.

The present Dean of Guild, Dougalstoun, Scotstoun, Provest Peadie, Dean of Guild Peters, Adam Montgomery, Elderslie, and John Bowman, Impowered to Commune with any person who will sell or wadsett Land near the toun, And that they report the subject of yr Conference to the House, in order to yr purchasing or securing their money upon land.

Merchants Hall, 29th March, 1714.

The House Conveined, And it being moved That a Commission be sent to some person in London, to petition the parliament against any act that may be presented, for retaining three pence of the Drawback of each pound of tobacco shipit, or to be shipit off for Ireland, after the twenty fourth instant, To Continue till the parliament of Ireland lay on threepence half penny p^r pound in use to be exacted there; Ordered that M^r William ffead, of London, mer^t, be Impowered, In behalf of the haill mer^t rank of this City, to apply by petition to ye parliam^t against any act, bill, petition, or motion made, or to be made in parliam^t, any ways tending to the purpose @ mentioned, or to lessen or impair the Drawbacks, as they are now in use to be paid

to mert^s, upon yr exportation of tobacco from Brittain to Ireland, And y^t he do every thing necessary to prevent ye passing of any act which may impair, or be prejudiciall to, or affect ye drawback presently payable upon tobaccos exported to Ireland, or discourage ye Export yrof.

Sat., 29th Octor, 1715.

The Dean of Guild and Brethren of his Councill of ye merchant rank being Conveened; The Lord Provost Represented, That in this tyme of common danger it was the opinion of The Magistrats and toun Councill The Toun should be put in a posture of Defence, by Drawing Lynes about it, as should be advysed by persons Expert in Military affairs; And in regard of ye present stop of ye payments, whereby The Toun cannot get payment from their Debtors, That there was a necessity for ye Community of ye Town to borrow money on the publick Credite, by bond, to be granted by ye Magistrats and Toun Councill, for defraying the expense of fortifying the Toun, And therefore moved that the house might consent to the Town's borrowing of a certain sum to the ends above mentioned, Whereupon it was agreed to by ye house, nemine contradicente, That the Town may borrow, upon the publick Credite of the toun, A sum not exceeding five hundred pounds Sterling, to be expended for the end, and to the use, @ mentioned.

January 26th, 1716.

James Thomson, from ye Committee for altering ye method of keeping the books and accounts of ye Revenneus and Incomes and debursements of ye house, produced a schein of ye method of keeping of ye books for ye future, in ye regular way of Debite and Credite; And ye sd schem being perused by seal of ye members, It was approven, nemine contradicente, and ordered the Books be kept in that form, in tyme coming, And that yearly, when ye accounts are

cleared, the Collector make ane abstract and general state of ye Revenneus of ye house, that the Condition yrof may the better appear to ye members.

23^d August, 1716.

The House being mett, and Thomas Peters, late Dⁿ of Guild, acting in absence of Ad^m Montgomery, Dean of Guild, Upon a petition presented by the Relict of Richard Manual, wryter, in behalf of Hugh Manual, her son, presently a slave in Tunis, praying for some part of the Charity of ye house toward his redemption from his said bondage w^t ye Turks; Ordered that ye Collector for the house Do, out of ye poor's money, pass the Credite of ye house by granting bond or Bill to some ffactor or proper person who undertakes ye negotiation of his Liberty, for ye sum of five and twenty pounds Sterling, which sum is to be payed att his return out of slavery.

24th May, 1717.

A Committee ordered to bid att ye roup of 22 aikers of land in little govan croft, Exposed to sale by Robert Rae.

That hereafter no Conserts or Bals be in ye hall without express consent of ye Deane of Gild.

10 October, 1717.

Ordered that ye Merchants house att the Cross be Glassed in ye windows yrof, betwixt and whitsonday next, And that Michael Coulter, Andrew Leitch, Michael Wallace, and James Christie, or any two of ym, w^t ye Dⁿ of Guild, see this done, and adjust the method and expences yrof, and raise ye rents of ye house yron, if that can be done.

7th Jary, 1718.

The Dean of Gild produced ane act of the Town Councell, dated the twenty-third day of December last, bearing, That by occasion of the Late Rebellion in the year 1715, The Towns Common good was put to a great charge and Expens, for the service of the Government and preservation of the City, to the extent of nineteen thousand nyne hundred eighty seven pund, Twelve shilling, four pennies, Conform to an Abstract of the sd Expenss, taken off ye Councill books, for qch acts of Councill were passed, for the payment subjoined to the sd act, and Craveing That the sd abstract of the sd expenss may be recorded in the houses book, as ane Evidence That the toun was at so much charge The tyme of the rebellion, Qch is besyde what was pay^d by the inhabitants, for the subsistence of the toun's 600 volunteers, that went to Stirling to joyn his majesty's forces; which being heard, and ye sd abstract read, in presence of, and considered be the members of the house, They ordain the sd abstract to be booked in their books only as ane evidence That the toun was at so much charge, but to have no furdur efect, and not to be added or accompted for as the List of debts already recorded.

The which day, considering That the City has incroatched considerably w^t inhabitants by what it was formerly, and that the City be divided in six paroches, yet there is but four churches and the meeting house, whereby many of the inhabitants are not served w^t seats in the kirks, and that for that purpose it is necessary another Church should be built; And Lykewise considering that the burnt Land at the Cross, fronting to the Gallowgate and above the Cross, hes continued these severall years bygone since it was burnt ruinous, and that these concerned in the Ground delay the rebuilding y^{ro}f, albeit the Toun hes caused appryse the same, Do therefor recomend it as their earnest desire to the Magistrates and toun Councill of the City that they would be pleased to cause build

another Church in such a convenient part of the City as shall be found proper.

17 Febry, 1718.

Resolved, That Two pence on the pund be exacted of the sailers wages, for relief of poor sailers, their wives, and children.

Glasgow, 27 Nov^r, 1718.

The sd day It is ordered That the Clerk cause book each sederunt, and at each meeting the former sederunt be read, and signed by the dean of Gild.

The sd day the D Gild represented, That Alexander ffullarton, ane of the poor men of the house, who had formerly mortified five hundred merks to the house, had now further assigned to the house several debts and soumes dew to him, viz., by M^r John ffullartons, Elder and yor, of Greenhall, Jon M^cAllay, barber, and oyrs, to the extent of four thowsan merks or yrby.

Glasgow, 25th Jary, 1722.

The Qch day It was proposed that a Committee of the merch^{ts}, both in and without the house, should be appoynted To consider upon some overtures and regulations with respect to Carters and workmen Employed by the merch^{ts}, that the merchants may be duly served, and not Imposed upon by Carters and workmen.

Glasgow, 9 Aprill, 1723.

Aggreed that none be enrolled as the poor of this house but such who have signed the Gold book, or ther fathers or husbands.

Ninth of October, 1723.

The dean of Gild and his Councill of the merchant rank con-

veened ; He gave in the Long Leit of the members of his sd Council, out of qch Three are to be chosen, in the usual manner, as the short Leet to be presented to the Toun Council, from qch one was to be taken to be dean of Gild for the ensuing year.

And Peter Murdoch and Andrew Ramsay, who were magistrats the year before, and till michaelmess, observing that they were not in the Long Leit or roll, protested that they might be added, and that they might vote and be voted to be of the Lyte for dean of Gild, in the same manner as any member of the house; and John Aird, late provost, observing that he was not in the Leit, protested that he may have a voice in Leiting in the usual way, for that it had been the constant custom for the magistrats merchants to be members of the house the year of their magistracie, And tho their office of provost and Baillie ceased by the Election the first tuesday after michaelmas, yet their being members of the dean of Gild's house did not thereby end, untill the dean of Gild himself was exauctorated in his office, which Lasts till the Wednesday eight days after determined, That they stand enrolled in the books of the house, as members, had been warned to the first meeting, and by the Bell, all members are called to every subsequent meeting.

James Peadie for himself, and such as should adhere to him, answered and protested, That the enrolling of the magistrats was a complement to them, and they being mentioned as magistrats pointed out their quality and character, And their magistracy being at ane end, their being members ceased; That it was in the power of the dean of Gild To have enrolled ym or not, as he thought fit; That being enrolled as magistrats, it was Qualificate, and by the gildrie they are only members ex officio; And Baillie Miller, now provost, and Robert Bogle, Junior, a Baillie, were not in the Leit last year.

Replied by Andrew Ramsay, late Baillie, that the dean of Gild having once named them, could not supersede or Qualefie the time of

their being members; That the Gildrie was not produced, and though it were, it was turned to a custom, as most of the matters yrin are now by custom settled and explained, and the Sederunt, where they are markd as members do not, nor could distinguish them from oyr members, as to the time of the endurance of their being of the dean of Gild's Councill, tho they in the List be described as present magistrats, yet that was honoris gratia; That the minute bears for the ensueing year, which in sound sense must include the whole year of the dean of Gild's officiating.

The dean of Gild has declared that he was willing the old magistrats @ mentioned should have a vote, whereon Joⁿ Wallace of Elderslie took instruments.

And James Peadie and Baillie W^m Anderson protested in the contrary, and for a vote of the house yron; To which Dougalston adhered, and with him many others concurred.

Provost Miller, in name of the late Magistrats, and the Magistrats in time coming, protested against the above protestation, and that by enrollments and custom the last ment^d Baillies should be leited, and they and the last year's provost have votes, otherwayes the Election to be voyd.

Then the Leits as given in were read over and voted, and after a scrutiny made, The persons to be presented to the Toun Councill stood thus, viz.^t: John Luke and Hugh Roger for two of them; And as to the third person, the votes ran upon William Anderson, seventeen in number, and upon John Stark, sixteen, Both of the uncontraverted members; and Provost Aird, Peter Murdoch, and Andrew Ramsay, late Baillies, Craved to be marked as voters for John Stark, and protested that their three votes, added to the other sixteen for John Stark, made to him a majority, and that he, and not William Anderson, be returned to the Toun Councill.

Dougalston protested in the contrary, and that William Anderson

be returned, as having the majority of Good votes, the three above-mentioned not being habile Electors.

Whereupon the voting was concluded, and the special matter as to the question concerning the old magistrats, how far they had a right to vote, was presented to the Toun Councill.

4th 8^{ber}, 1724.

Two letters, one from Lord Eglington another from ye M^r of Ross, produced, direct to ye Dean of Gild, Desiring the house may lend money on the Lord Eglington's her^{ble} bond, on ye Estate of Kilmarnock; The Consideration of that loan, and of ye subject in these letters, referred to in ye Committee formerly made for y^t affair.

Glasgow, 8 April, 1725.

Ordered That the Collector pay out Three pund ster^l for a help to defray the Charge of the building of a bridge at Riccartoun.

22 March, 1726.

Agreed That the Ground Annualls payable to the house be sold at twenty-five years purchase, and Remit to and Impower the Dean of Gild and Collector to do the same.

Agreed That the merchant house at the Cross be ensured from fire, and remit to the dean of Gild and Collector to do the same.

8th August, 1729.

The sd day the dean of Gild represented that the Laird of Northbar now desired to make sale of the fferrie of Inchinnan and Lands belonging thereto, and if the Merch^{ts} house judged it convenient for the house to make a purchase yrof, they might appoynt a Committee to Commune with him thereupon; Qch being heard, they agree that

the house make a purchase of the sd ferrie, providing Northbar be reasonable in his demands, and appoynt the Dean of Gild, with the Magistrats, John Stark, late Provost, W^m Craig, Lawrence Drummond, Thomas Clark, W^m Anderson, John Coultar, and Hugh Rodger, to meet with Northbar thereupon, and see what the lowest is he will sell the same at, and to report.

1 October, 1730.

Anna Sanders, relict of M^r William Sanders, Professor of Mathematicks in ye University of S^t Andrews, and uncle to Robert Sanders of Auldhouse, deceast, Inrolled pensioner, to Receive six pound scots, quarterly, or twenty four pound p. ann.

7th January, 1731.

Act of the Town Council for erecting a Charity School or Workhouse, for employing and intertaining the poor of the City, and restraining the fraudulent practise of idle begging, by voluntary subscription, approved of and concurred in by the House.

2nd of November, 1736.

Samuel M^cCall, who had been elected Dean, declines to accept office—Act of Town Council anent the election of a new Dean.

11 Nov^r, 1740.

In pursuance of a former act of the 15 of October last, in reference to the poor, The house does agree That, for the house part, One thowsand Bolls meal be purchast, And that the Dean of Gild joyn with the Magistrats, Trades house, and General Session, in making a joynt application to the Bank for money to purchase the meall, and the house to be bound to free the Dean of Gild, and any oyr of the house who joyns w^t him to be bound to the Bank, of the

obligation to be Given to the Bank; and in case of any loss by the meal, it is referred to each member in the house to Contribute to make up the loss, and not to burden the Common stock of the house to make up the loss.

16 Nov^r, 1743.

Ane drawght of a proposed Act of Council for erecting the directors of the Town's hospitall into a Legal Society or Corporation being Laid before the house, and being read and considered, they unanimously consented thereto, and remit to the dean of Gild to intimat this to the directors at their first meeting.

24th Jary, 1745.

The Dean of Gild and Collector Represented, That in consequence of a former act, dai^t the 11 Octor last, they had Signed a Feu right to the Printfield Company at Pollokshaws, of the four acres, two roods, and 4th p^t of a rood, of Nether Auldhouse, in the terms of the said Act (viz., £ in hand, and Three pound Sterling money, yearly, of feuduty, and upon the expiring of each twenty five years to double the feuduty for that year), as also represented, That they had made publick intimation of the Sale of the rest of the lands of Auldhouse, by publick roup, for a few yrof, in the terms of the sd Act, And that the day of the roup, being upon the 7 Novr last, the sds lands, in the terms of the sd Act, were exposed to Sale by publick roup, the same fell into the hands of Joⁿ Wardrop, Writer in Glasgow, as the highest offerer, viz.—for the Sum of Three hundred nynty six pound, Sterling, with the burdens mentioned in the above Act, and according thereto (viz.—at a yearly feuduty of Thirty four pounds, ten shillings, Sterling), All Qch being heard and considered by the house, they approve thereof.

15th September, 1745.

George Bogle, Dean of Gild, and members of the house Convened, Considering that the principal Inhabitants of the City have signed ane petition and application to the Magistrats and Town Council of the City, setting forth that the City is threatened to be attacked by a force which they are in no condition able to resist, and that the inhabitants, and their trades, and dwellings are in Imminent danger of being exposed to irreparable losses and inconveniences, Theirfor Beseeching the Magistrats and Council, by y^r act to authorize Andrew Aiton, Joⁿ Brown, Coline Dunlop, Richard Oswald, Mathew Bogle, W^m Dunlop, Sen^r, Robert Chrystie, David Dalziell, Merh^{ts}; Allan Dreghorn, wright, Joⁿ Gordon, Surgeon, and James Smith, weaver, or any five of them, upon the approach of any such force, To meet with their Leaders and make the best terms possibly they can, for saving the city and its trade and inhabitants from these dismal consequences, and to indemnify and relieve the above Trustees for whatever engagements they shall come under, or be oblig^d to perform. That in pursuance of the above signed application, the Magistrats and Council of the City have by their act authorized the above persons as Trustees, to the effect above mentioned, according to the above application, and obliged them and their successors in office to indemnify the Trustees, in terms of the sd application. All which being considered by the house, they agreed to the above application, and act of the town Council in reference thereto, and approve of the same in the hail heads yrof.

27 Septem^r., 1745.

The dean of Gild and members of the house represented that the Magistrats and Council, with the trustees and Commissioners named in the former act, and a plurality of the Merch^{ts} and Crafts had mett upon a Letter, delivered and directed to the Magistrats, dait at

Halyrood House, the 25 instant, signed Charles P. R., demanding Compliance with the payment of the fiftein thousand pund, sterl., which he had required by his former Letter, with a Commission of the same dait, signed as above, to Jon Hay, Esquire, Impowering him forthwith to repair to Glasgow, and treat w^t the magistrats and Council, in terms of the sd letters; and that the magistrats and trustees forsd had met with M^r Hay, and after much time had debated w^t him, to restrict the demand to five thousand, five hundred pund, sterl., which, in yr opinion, should be complied with, to save the inhabitants and their dwellings and goods from being exposed to the destruction of ane army of highlanders, now in arms, and some of them at the entry and confines of the City; all which being considered by the meeting, they declared that in their present circumstances, and as necessity has no law, they approved yrof, and that such as had money, or could draw bills, would pay in the same to any proper person, appoynted by the Council for that effect, and take security from the magistrats and Council for the same, and that the repayment yrof might be thereafter divided among, and pay^d by the inhabitants, according to yr rexive abilities, and interest in ther dwellings, trade, and commerce wⁱⁿ the City; all which being considered by this house, they agree thereto.

Glasgow, 12th September, 1746.

The which day, George Bogle, Dean of Gild, and members of the house Conveened, The Dean of Gild produced ane act of the Town Council for their approbation, which is as followes:—

Att Glasgow the eight day of September, Javyi and fourty six years.

The which day the Magistrats and Town Council conveened. The Committee, in consequence of ane appoyntment by a former act, daited the sixtein day of july last, to consider the state of the Town, and report their opinion as to the two fines, lately exacted by the Rebills, Reported, that on the fourtein of Sept^r, 1745, The pretender's son sent a written demand to the Magistrats, Requiring, on their peril,

payment of fifteen thousand pund, sterl., beside sundry oyr things; that upon notice thereof, the principal inhabitants, by their petition to the Magistrats and Council, setting forth that the City was threatned with a force which they were unable to resist, and that the inhabitants and their trade and dwellings were in Imminent danger of being exposed to Irreparable losses, Did Beseech the Magistrats and Council, by their act to authorize certain persons therein named, or their quorum, on the approach of any such forces, To meet with their leaders and make the best terms they could, for saving the City, its trade, and inhabitants, from these dismal consequences, and to indemnify these trustees from any engagement they should come under; That in pursuance of said petition the magistrats and Council gave a Commission in terms yrof. The Committee further report that on the twenty six of Sept^r, 1745, the magistrats, at a full meeting of the inhabitants, in the Towns new hall, Represented that they had certain information that a party of the Rebills were to be in Glasgow the same day, setting furth what the Council had done, and desiring their approbation and instructions to the Commissioners in the Council act, upon hearing whereof, the inhabitants unanimously approved of the Councils act, and authorized the afores^d Commissioners, in conjunction with the magistrats, to make the best terms they could; that accordingly, said twenty six of September last, John Hay, Writer to the signet, came with a partie of horse, and presented a written commission to him, the sd John Hay, Together with a demand from the pretender's son, for fifteen thousand pund, sterl.; And the magistrats and Trustees for the Inhabitants having had a long conversation with him, They at last, with much difficulty, got him to restrict his demand to five thousand pound, in money, and five hundred pound, in Goods.

The Committee also Report that on the twenty seven of Sept^r. last, at another full meeting of the inhabitants in sd new hall, The Magistrats Resumed what had been comuned with M^r Hay, and desired to know their opinion; upon which the whole inhabitants present, accept William Pagan, ane under boyler in the wester sugar house, approved of the transaction, Wherupon the Magistrats Represented that money would be wanted immediately, and that the Council were in the meantime to give the Towns security, yet the fine was to be proportioned among the inhabitants according to their ability, at a more settled time, And desired such of the inhabitants as had money to pay it into John McGilchrist, the Town Clerk, who should be immediately authorized by the Council to give his receipt therefor. All which was approved of by the inhabitants; That accordingly the Council authorized sd John McGilchrist to Grant receipts to such of the inhabitants as had money to Lend, for which they should have Acts of Council, who accordingly pay^d him the sum of Three thowsand five hundred pund, sterling, which, with fifteen hundred pund, sterl., borrowed from The Earl of Glencairn, made the sum of five thowsand pund, sterl., And Port-Glasgow Ropework, and Glasgow Tann work, and Rich^d Allan, merchant, and James Smith, weiver in Glasgow, furnished goods to the extent of five hundred pund sterling, in full of the sd oppressive demand, made by sd John Hay, all which money and goods were, on the thirty of Sept^r. last, pay^d and delivered to said John Hay, conform to receipt.

The Committee also Report that the above matters and transactions were laid before the merchants and trades house, and approved of by them, conform to their separate acts. The Committee further reported that the Rebills having entered Glasgow, the 25 December, 1745, with the pretender's son, there was a demand made, on acco^t of the City's late appearance, in arms, for our happy Government, of six thousand shirt cloath Coats, Twelve thousand Linnen shirts, six thousand pairs of shoes, and the like number of pairs of tartan hose, and blue bonnets, Whereupon the magistrats, on the Twenty eight of December last, Laid this most exorbitant demand before a full meeting of the inhabitants, in sd new hall, who unanimously, considering their then unhappy situation, agreed to comply with sd unjust demand, and named John Wilson, James Wardrop, and Walter Brisbane, Merch^t, to buy and produce the cloaths; Thomas Dunmore and John Neilson, Merch^t, also merch^{ts}, to produce the Linnens; Robert Finlay, tanner, and James Wyllie, Cordi^{er}, to provide the shoes; Archibald Coats and James Smyllie, Mert^s, to buy the tartan for the hose; John Hamilton and Jon Cochran, mert^s, to produce the blew bonnets; who, in virtue of sd order, purchased said recited goods, part whereof were delivered to the rebills before they left Glasgow, and for relieving the hostages whom the Rebills carried from Glasgow, the remainder was sent after them to Bannockburn, The acco^t whereof, with the names of the furnishers, is insert in a book, made for the purpose, in the hands of sd Jon M^cGilchrist, amounting in all, with the expenses of some cartage to Bannockburn, to the sum of five thousand pund, sterl. The Committee also report that the far greater part of the inhabitants, by writes under their hands, approved of sd last transaction, and approved the buying of sd goods, and promised to pay their parts of them, as should be proportioned by persons, authorized for that end. The Committee, moreover, Report that it is juste and reasonable, the Lenders of sd money and furnishers of sd goods should be secured concerning their repayment; But that the Touns ordinary and stated revenue is altogether unable to pay two such heavy debts, and that it is their humble petition this whole affair should be laid before the merchants and trades houses, and that seprat acts should be obtained from them, approving of the foresaid Transactions, and Recommending to the magistrats and Council, to Give the Touns security for repayment of the sums lent, and goods furnished, as above said, and promising and engaging, each of the sd houses for themselves and constituents, that they will concur and aggree in all measures, for applying to the King and parliament for relief and reimbursement of sd two iniquous fynes, or if that cannot be obtained, or shall become ineffectual, to apply for powers to the magistrats and Council to name proper persons, in the same manner as is done with respect to the Touns land tax act, for proportioning and dividing the sd two heavy sums among the heritors, Land holders, Traders, and inhabitants, conform to their interests and abilitys, and vesting proper powers in the magistrats, for levying and uplifting yrof, in a summary manner, or that they will concur in procuring ane act of parliament, for prolonging the grant of the 2^d on the pynt of ale and beer, and for extending that Imposition upon malt, brewen by, or for the use of privat Inhabitants, and consenting to the Touns levying their present

or any future grant of sd imposition qch they shall obtain, to the full extent of the Act of Parliament, and that they will concurr in any other measures that shall be judged proper, for the relief and reimbursement of the touns publick stock of the sd two oppressive and unjust exactions. Which Report above written being heard, seen, and considered by the magistrats and Council, they approved, and hereby approve of the same, and agree thereto, and Remit to the magistrats to lay the same before the merchants and trades houses, for their approbation, and to the effect, and for the ends and purposes above sett forth.

Which Act of the Toun Council, above narrated, being read, heard, seen, and deliberately considered upon by the dean of Gild, and members of the house, the sd merchants house judged the sd Act of Council most just and reasonable, and did, and do hereby approve of the same, and of the transactions therein contained, and recommended, and hereby Recommend to the Magistrats and Toun Council. All in terms of the request contained in the above report.

9th Oct^r, 1746.

The which day, the house Considering that many Complaints, and for many years, had been made by the inhabitants unto the magistrats and council, of the inconveniency of having slaughter-houses, for slaughtering black cattell, calfs, sheep, and lambs, within the city, and of the prejudice and damage frequently arrising to the inhabitants and strangers resorting to the City, by the dunghills and dogs from the sd slaughter-houses; And that upon petitions from the inhabitants for remeid of thes inconveniences, the Toun at a considerable expenss has erected convenient slaughter-houses, upon the confines of and near to the River of Clyd; and that the Magistrats and Council had, by yr Act, dait the 6th of Nover, 1744, appointed and ordained the fleshers within the City, as well as beef and land mercat (sic), to flit and remove from ye slaughter-houses next within the City, to the sd new Slaughter-houses erected by the Toun upon the confines of the river, and prohibited and discharged the whole fleshers, by themselves, or ye servants of all persons q'soever, To Slaughter for Sale any

cattle ther at the above slaughter-houses, under certane penaltys; And that in consequence y^rof the fleshers had taken ane tack of the sd slaughter-houses and the dues of ye slaughtering y^rin, from Candlemas, 1745, to Candlemas, 1746, and renewed the sd tack for the current year, frae Candlemas, 1746, to Candlemas, 1747, whereby (whereas) it was expected that the fleshers would have removed to the sd new erected Slaughter-houses, But as yet have not removed, But slaughter as formerly, within the City, to the great nuisance of the inhabitants. This House, for their part, do approve of the Touns y^r erecting the said Slaughter-houses upon the confines of the river, as a most proper and fit place, for the purpose forsd, And remit to the dean of Gild, in their name to apply to the magistrats and council To put their act to due execution ag^t the fleshers, To oblige ym to remove to the sd new erected slaughter-houses, and to see that they slaughter no wher else within the city.

The sd day, The Dean of Gild and Members of the house Convened, The dean of Gild and these of the Committee, nominated by the house, by their act daid the 27th of March last, To consider the conditions and state of the house, and upon ways and means how the same may be increased, Gave in their report, which is as follows :—

That they having had under consideration a state of the stock and funds of the house, and that to them it appears that the provisions for maintenance of the poor of the merchant rank is extremely scanty and small, and that there is no ffund for supporting and defending the just right and privileges of the fair traders, they are humbly of opinion, that the stock of the merch^{ts} house might be considerably increased, by extending the right of membership to all traders in the place who are willing to contribut to the above good purpose, as after-mentioned; And as John Brown, the present dean of Gild, from a principle of publick spirit, and a just regard to the interest of the house, is willing to Quit and recede from his right of chuseing the members of this house, for the next year of his office, should he, as has been always customary, be thereto re-elected, with this provision, that it be enacted by the house, that his successors in office shall conform thereto and observe the same. The Committee therfor humbly submit the subsequent rules to the consideration of the house :—

Primo.—That it should be enacted and Ordained by the dean of Gild and Merch^{ts} house, That their present Sett or Constitution, Commonly called the Gildry, so far as

altered by the following regulations, which are not inconsistent therewith, and no farther, shall cease and determine, from and after the second wednsday after the election of magistrats in October next, At which tyme the under-written provisions and rules are to take place, viz: All members or Traders within the City, forreign or domestick, wholesale or retail, of a fair character, who are willing to pay—to the Collector of the merchants house for the tyme—five shillings sterling, and engage themselves to pay to him four shill^s yearly, from and after the sd time, are to be admitted and recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose, as the only members of the merchants house.

Secundo.—That upon the second wednsday after the election of the magistrats in October next, at four in the afternoon, these members, with the dean of Gild, shall meet in the merch^a hall, att which time The dean of Gild, by himself, shall make choise of twelve out of the recorded members, either forreign or home traders, And shall leit the remainder of the recorded members in twenty-four Lytes, whereof twelve Lytes shall contain forreign traders, and the oyr twelve Lytes contain home or inland traders, and, by plurality of votes of the recorded members, make choice of one out of each Lyte of the sd Twenty-four Lytes, making up Twenty-four persons, who, with the Twelve made choyse of by the dean of Gild, are, with the merchant magistrats and Collector of the house for the time, to Constitut and Compose the dean of Gilds Council of the merchants house, and, with him, to represent the Community of the merchant house for the ensuing year. And so forth yearly thereafter, The dean of Gild, for the time, and the whole recorded and booked members of the merch^a house, to meet upon the second wednsday after election of the Magistrats, at four in the afternoon, and make choise of thirty-six persons, as said is, who, with the merchant magistrats and Collector for the time, are to Compose the dean of Gilds Council, and, with him, to represent the Community of the merchants house for the ensuing year, as sd is, and have all the powers and priveleges which, by Law or practice, presently are or have been vested in the dean of Gild and merch^a house, without prejudice always to the dean of Gild, on extraordinary emergency, in all time coming, to convene the whole recorded and booked members of the merchants house, for their advyce and direction, which is to be a rule to him and his council.

Tertio.—That on the second Wednesday after the election of the Magistrats, in the year 1748, and on the same day every year thereafter, at ten in the forenoon, The dean of Gild, merchant magistrats, Collector of the house, for the time, and his Council fors^d of thirty-six persons, the major part of them being a quorum, shall meet in the merchants hall, where the dean of Gild, for the time, shall, in the usual manner as formerly, make up Lytes of the sd thirty-six persons, and, out of the said Lytes, the dean of Gild, merch^t magistrats, Collector for the time, and the sd thirty-six persons, or their quorum, in the case of the dean of Gild for the time being then two years in office, shall make choice of three of their number out of the sd thirty-six, But, in case the dean of Gild for the time has been only one year then in office, then they shall make choise but of two persons, who are to be added to and with the sd present dean of Gild, and that as the Lyte to be presented to the magistrats and toun Council by the merch^a house, to the effect one of the sd three may be chosen by the sd magistrats and Town Council, and deacons of Crafts, to bear office as Dean of Gild for the then ensuing

year; and the dean of Gild and his Council to name so many of their number to vote in the election of the dean of Gild and deacon conveener, as will ballance the deacons of Crafts, as has been formerly used.

Quarto.—That upon the Thursday thereafter, the dean of Gild and his Council, with the merchant magistrats and Collector for the time, shall meet in the merchant hall, and make choise of four of their number to be Lyners and bretheren of the dean of Gilds Court, for the merchant rank, for the years ensueing, according as they have been in use formerly.

Quinto.—That no person be admitted to vote as a member of the house, in chuseing the Council of twenty-four, or be capable to be elected one of that number, or of the Twelve to be named by the dean of Gild, who has not pay^d up his poor rates for the preceding year or years, and this without prejudice to all other exaction for payment of sd rates, as accords of the law.

Sexto.—That in case of the death or incapacity of a dean of Gild, during the currencie of his office, the immediately preceding dean of Gild in life, and capable to officiat, shall act as such, and have all the powers of that office vested in him till the ordinary time of election, excepting a seat and vote in the Town Council. And that upon the sd second wednesday after the Election of the magistrats, being the day fixed for chuseing the dean of Gild, in case of the death, absence, or indisposition of the office bearer for the preceding year, the person who bore office immediately before him, and failzeing of him the person immediately before him, shall act as dean of Gild, and have the same powers as the dean of Gild would have, if present, either by ther regulations or the Gildry, so far as not hereby altered.

Septimo.—That the whole Clauses, rules, and articles, contained in sd Letter of Gildry, not hereby altered, shall continue in full force, as if these presents had never been devised or execut.

Lastly, for the encouragement of all fair Traders, to become members of this house, by paying and engaging as aforsd, it is proposed that it should be enacted, that henceforth, in time coming, Charitys of all kinds in the disposal of the merch^t house, Limited mortifications, and these already enrolled, excepted, shall be bestowed on such persons as have been entered members of this house, or their indigent widows or children, preferable to all other claimers whatever; and it is proposed to be recommended to the dean of Gild to lay ane extract of these resolutions, when agreed to by the house, before the magistrats and Council for their approbation and authoritie.

Which Report above written being read, heard, seen, duely and deliberately considered by the Dean of Gild and whole members of the house, they unanimously aggree thereto, and approve yrof, in the whole heads, clauses, articles, provisions, rules, and regulations above written, and enact and ordain the same to take effect, and to have full force and strenth, from and after the date hereof, and

enact that the Dean of Gild, his successors in office, shall conforme to the sd rules, and observe the same, in all poynts, and the house recommend, and remit to, and Impower the dean of Gild, to lay the above act of the house before the Magistrats and Council for their approbation, and to interpone their authority thereto.

The Act of the Magistrates and Town Council, interponing their authority to these Regulations, is as follows:—

At Glasgow, the fourth day of May, one thousand seven hundred and forty-seven years.

The which day the Magistrates and Town Council convened, John Brown, Dean of Gild, gave in a Representation for, and in name of, the Merchants House, setting forth, That they had under consideration a state of the Stock and funds of the Merchants House, and that the provision for maintenance of the poor of the Merchant rank was very small, and that there was no fund for supporting and defending the just rights and privileges of the fair trader, and that for increasing of the Stock they had agreed upon, and enacted certain Rules and Regulations in their future management, and extending the right of Membership in the House to all traders in the place, to which the Dean of Gild had agreed, conform to an Act of the House, dated the 23^d day of April last, and craving the Magistrates and Council would ratify and approve of the said Act, and interpone their authority thereto: Which Act of the Merchants House the Dean of Gild produced in Council, and being heard, read, and considered by the Magistrates and Council, they ratify and approve of the same, in the hail heads and clauses thereof, and interpone their authority thereto; with this provision and condition, that no person be admitted a member of the Merchants House but such as are actual Burgesses and Guild brethren of the City, previous to their being admitted members of the Merchant House.

14th April, 1748.

The sd day agree that John Riddell, Coll^r, have five pr cent. of what money he collects and receives from the matriculat members of the house.

19th December, 1752.

The dean of Gild and Members of the house Convened, The dean of Gild and Committee reported that in pursuance of former acts they had exposed to sale, by publick roup, the subjects following, vizt.:—

The Mercht^t Great Tenement at the Cross, viz^t, the first story yrof, called the old Coffee house, with the Cellars and Office houses belonging thereto, middensted and dung of the whole Tenement, which fell in the hands of John Neilson, Merch^t in Glasgow, as the highest offerer, viz—for five hundred Twenty-five pund, sterl. Item, The three storeys and Garrets above, with the Cellars belonging thereto, Qch fell in the hands of Alex^r Cocken, Vintner, for the behoove of George Wardrop, merch^t, for five hundred pund, as the highest offer. Item, the three little back cellars at the head of the closs, under doctor Patons Tenement, Qch fell in the hands of Robert M^cNair, Merch^t, for behoove of Jon Arnat, Merch^t, as the highest offerer, viz.—for One hundred pund, sterl., all which Comprehends the whole of the Merch^t house great tenement, cellars, office houses, and oysr belonging thereto, excepting a little cellar at the back of the fore schops next to the entry of the closs, not yet sold; which sums forsd are payable by the purchasers at Whytsunday next, with @ rent yrof, ay and Qll payment, and qch is the purchaser entry; And farder, Reported that they had exposed to sale, by publick roup and sale, Provost Airds whole Lands in Goosedubs and Bridgate, excepting the dwellinghouse or tenement qch is separat therefrom in that closs, called Hodgarts closs, which fell in the hands of Lennox, Taylor, for himself, and for the behoove of Rowan, Couper, as the highest offerer, viz.—for the sum of four hundred and eighty pund, sterl., payable as above, and their entry at Whytsunday.

And in like manner, the dean of Gild and Committee Reported,

That they had exposed to sale, by way of publick roup, for a few right to be Granted by the Merchants house, of their lands of Wester Craigs, with the exceptione and reservations of these parts and portions, and Ground right and property yrof, viz.—These two pastures planted with firr, and oyr barren timber in the field of the Craig; That little park where the dams of the Town of Glasgow Milns are situated, and the skirt of the Touns Common, on the north side of the Cross from the entry of the Touns new malt miln to their Corn miln eastward, and also the brae or back park, extending to three acres, two roods, and 32 falls of Ground, lying next the firr park, on the end yrof, and also the well park, or five acre park, formerly fewed out by the Mercht^t house, to which Edwin and Robert Donaldsons have now right, with liberty to them to connect the Springs, with open or close drains, from the lands of wester Craigs, to the sd well park, or five acre parke, and also excepting two acres and a halfe, or thereby, lying to and on the west side of Jon Glassford, Mer^t, his lands in easter Craigs, and all with the exceptions and reservations forsd, To be holden in feu farm, for payment to the house of fifty pund, Sterling, yearly, at two terms in the year, Whytsunday and Martinmas, by equal portions of feuduty yearly, commencing the first term at Whytsunday, 1753, and so forth termly thereafter, with fyve pund, sterling, penalty, for each terms payments failzie, and the heirs of the purchasers, and yr heirs, paying twenty-five pund, sterling, and the singular successors paying fifty pund, sterl. the first year of each of their entry, attour the yearly feuduty. And Whereas the whole lands of Wester Craig are valued

at Two hundred and fifty pund of Valuation, and according thereto these lands do pay cess and oyr publick burden; That these parts of the lands to be fewed shall be ascertained and declared to be three fourths of the above Two hundred and fifty pund of Valuation, which One hundred and twelve pund, ten shills, according to which the vassals to bear the burden of all cess, publick burden, and oys, from and after Martamass, 1752, qch is to be their entry; and the forsd lands in the terms @ writen, and with the burdens and reservations above writen, being publicly roupd, the same fell in the hands of John Writer in Glasgow, as the highest offer, viz.—for the sum of Three hundred punds, sterl., with the @ rent yrof from Mart. last, and payable at Whyts. next, which is to be the sd John entry, viz.—Martimas last.

All which Report being Considered by the Members of the house, they approved, and hereby approve of the rexive roups and sales above written, and they hereby Impower and authorize the dean of Gild and Collector, for themselves and in name of the house, to compleat the above roups and sales, and Grant and Subscribe the several rights and conveyances, in the terms of the roups, in favours of the purchasers.

At the Merchants hall in Glasgow, the twenty-third day of April, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four years.

The said day, Robert Christie, Dean of Guild, and Members of the Merchants House, being Convened, and Considering That as The Magistrats and Toun Council of Glasgow, the Trades House, and General Session are, for this year, to advance to the Toun's Hospital the sum of one hundred and sixty pounds sterling, the funds of that hospital falling much short, by the great increase of the number of poor maintained there, Therefore the Merchants House Do hereby agree to advance on their part the sum of fourty pounds sterling, for this year, to the said Hospital, and appoint the Collector to make payment thereof accordingly.

And, it is hereby also agreed and Enacted, that as the funds of this house are increased so as to admit a greater number of poor upon the rolls, That the sum of Sixty Pounds sterling, yearly, be added to

the other Charities bestowed by the house, and expended and appropriated as follows, viz^t., To three poor men of the merchant rank, qualified as aftermentioned, the sum of one hundred pounds, scots, each ; To other two poor men, sixty pounds, scots, each ; To three Merchants widows, one hundred pounds, scots, each. The five men to be named, now and hereafter, shall be such as have been, and are in good repute for morals, who have been men of Credit and business in this City ; They shall be Merchant burgesses and Guild brothers of Glasgow, fifty years of age or upwards, to be properly vouched ; They shall be reduced in their circumstances, and not otherwise provided ; and these pensions to continue during their being in low circumstances, and their residence in this City : of all which the Dean of Guild and Members of the House to be the sole Judges.

The three women, now and hereafter to be named, shall be widows of such as have been Merchant burgesses and Guild brethren of Glasgow, of fifty years of age or upwards, to be properly vouched, unless when burdened with a family of children, in which case the age to be dispensed with ; They shall be women of good fame, and widows of such Merchants as have been men of credit and character in the place ; They shall be reduced in their circumstances, and not otherwise provided ; and their pensiones to continue during their being in low circumstances, widowhood, and residence in this City : of all which the Dean of Guild and Members of the House to be the sole and ultimate Judges.

At the sametime the following Regulations were proposed and agreed to, viz^t :—

1st.—That a substantial press be provided, to hold two strong boxes, which are to contain all the principal papers and parchments belonging to the house, and this press to be fixed to the floor and side wall of the Merchants Hall ; That two good locks and Keys be provided, for each of the strong boxes and press, one of which Keys shall be kept by the Dean of Guild for the time, and the other by a person appointed by the house.

2nd.—That a Compleat Inventory be made out, in a book, of all the principal papers and parchments belonging to the House, with an Abstract of their contents.

3rd.—That at the first meeting of the House, after the annual Election, there shall be five persons appointed by the House, for a yearly Committee on the books and affairs, of which the Dean of Guild, Provost, and Collector, when acting without a Sallary, shall be three, and the other two to be chosen by the house. But when the Collector has a Sallary, he shall not be of this Committee, but a third person shall be appointed in his room by the House.

4th.—That this Committee, of which three to be a quorum, and the Dean of Guild necessarily to be one, shall meet four times every year, viz^t., On the first tuesdays of March, June, September, and December, and have under their consideration The Debts, Securities, and other affairs of the House, and shall make such alterations therein as shall seem necessary, and shall enter their proceedings in a book, to be provided for that purpose.

5th.—That the Collector shall have his Books posted up, and produce them at each of these quarterly Meetings, that the balance of Cash in his hands may be lent out, at the pleasure of the Committee.

6th.—That the proceedings of this Committee shall be laid before a general Meeting of the house, to be called for that purpose on the second tuesdays of March, June, September, and December, for their approbation; and before such fixed general Meetings all petitions for enrolment of pensioners shall be presented, with every other thing in use to be laid before the General Meetings.

7th.—That according to the Regulation of the seventh of May, one thousand seven hundred and fourty seven, The Dean of Guild shall, at the great annual meeting immediately after his election, first, by himself, make choice of the twelve members to be named by him out of either foreign or home traders, and afterwards proceed to Leet the remainder of the recorded Members, out of which twenty-four are to be chosen in the manner therein directed.

8th.—That the last article of the said Regulations be again ratified and confirmed, which runs thus: For the encouragement of all fair traders to become members of the house, It is Enacted, That henceforth, and in all time coming, Charities of all kinds in the disposal of the Merchants house, Limited Mortifications and these already enrolled excepted, shall be bestowed on such poor as have been entered Members of the house, or their indigent widows and children, preferable to all others whatever, and that no recommendation be received by any Member of the house from any person who is not matriculate.

6th January, 1755.

The Dean of Guild and Council, taking into their consideration that the entry into the River of Clyde, betwixt the island of Little Cumbra, in the County of Ayr, and the South-east end of the island of Bute, is, by reason of its narrowness, extremely difficult to find, and dangerous for shipping to approach in the night time, there

being two other passages—one upon each side thereof—both very dangerous, which are apt to be mistaken in the dark for the middle or safest passage; and that, by such mistakes and uncertainty, sundry Ships and Cargos have been lost, and many others in the utmost danger of being wreck'd; all which losses and inconveniences might have been for the time past, and may be for the time to come, prevented by a Light House, properly erected and maintained on the said island of Little Cumbra, which will be of great publick use and benefit to the navigation in those parts; and that by removing some Shoals and flatts, or setting up Beacons, and marks, for eviting such dangers, and by making other necessary works, the navigation in the Firth and River of Clyde would be rendered more safe and commodious; and that there is at present no fund for carrying on, maintaining, and supporting such usefull and beneficial works, and that it is highly reasonable that all shipping passing or repassing, either into, through, or near any of the entries aforesaid, leading into the River of Clyde, or otherwise receiving benefit from a Lighthouse, when erected upon the said island of Little Cumbra, should pay towards the support of the same, and for the other uses above mentioned; Therefore, the Dean of Guild and Council aforesaid do hereby authorize, commissionate, and appoint you, George Murdoch, Esq', Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow, and Andrew Cochran, Esq', late Provost of the said City, both now at London, as their Managers, Solicitors, and Attornies, jointly and severally, for them and in name of the Community or Corporation of the Merchants House, and of the Masters and Owners of the Ships belonging to the said Firth and River of Clyde, To apply to Our Sovereign Lord the King's Most Excellent Majesty, and to the most honourable the Lords Spiritual and temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled, for an Act, for erecting, maintaining, and supporting a Light house on the said island, called Little Cumbra, and for rendering the navigation in the said firth and river more safe

and commodious, and to use your utmost dilligence and all proper means for obtaining thereof: Hereby promising and engaging to pay whatever expenses and charge you may be at, and what money you shall advance in the prosecution and management of the premises, and to honour and pay whatever bills you shall draw on the Dean of Guild and Merchants House, or the Collector of the said house, provided that the Dean of Guild and Council aforesaid, and their Successors in office for ever, be the Trustees for putting the said Act in execution.

9th September, 1755.

The same day the Dean of Guild presented to the House Extracts of two Acts of the Toun Council of this City, relating to unfree men and unfree women who use trade in the City; and the same being read, are ordered to be here ingrossed, for the more effectual publication and execution thereof.

Follows the first Act.

At Glasgow, the twenty first day of September, one Thousand six hundred and ninety five years.

The whilk day the Magistrats and Town Council Convened, taking into their consideration that there are many Complaints, made by the Freemen Burgesses of this Burgh, That a great many men and women, Inhabitants thereof, who are not Burgesses, do use Freemen's trade, to the discouragement of these who are Burgesses and freemen, Do therefore ordain the Dean of Guild, and his successors, to Call and Conveen before him the sds hail unfreemen and women, that use trade, as sd is, and put them in prison, till they pay one hundred pounds, Scots, of fyne, and find caution not to use any freemans trade within this Burgh, in time coming, under the pain of one hundred pounds, toties quoties, unless they first enter themselves Burgesses thereof.

Follows the other Council Act.

At Glasgow, the twenty third day of September, one Thousand seven hundred and twenty one years.

Anent the Petition given in by the Dean of Gild and Members of the Merchants House, Craving, for the farther support of their poor, That the Magistrats and Council would interpone their authority, in obliging those who get gratis tickets, and exercises merchandize by virtue thereof, to pay into the House a certain sum, upon their upsetting; And the Magistrats and Council having appointed a Committee of their number to consider the aforesaid Petition, given in by the Dean

of Guild and Members of the Merchants House, The said Committee Reported that they having considered the said Representation, and what is thereby proposed, for enabling the Merchants house to make the necessary provisions, for answering the necessities, and supporting the decayed members, widows, and orphans of the Merchants, and in some measure preventing the exhausting the Stock of the Merchants House, and having discoursed the Dean of Guild and some of the Members of the Merchants House at great length thereupon, and after much reasoning and due deliberation, It was the opinion of the Committee that, in time coming, all and every person, who is not a member of some of the incorporated trades, pretending to use any privilege within the City, by virtue of any honorary burgess ticket, or by virtue of any ticket granted by act of the Toun Council, gratis, from and after this date, shall, before they be allowed to enjoy any privilege thereby, be obliged to swear the Burgess oath, and pay in for the use of the Merchants rank, to their Collector for the time, the sum of Twenty four Pounds, Scots, whereof a Record shall be kept by the Clerk to the Merchants House, and an attestation of the said payment endorsed upon the said burgess ticket. Which Report being heard and considered by the Magistrats and Council, They approve of the said Committees opinion, and agree thereunto, and ordain the same to take effect from and after the date hereof.

14th December, 1756.

On the Petition of Alexander Campbell, Senior, desiring a feu right of the three and a half acres of ground, or thereby, in Broomielaw Croft, now possessed by him, and lately by James Donald, lying on the east side of the Delft House grounds, the House agreed to give the said feu right, for now paying down one years rent, and also paying a years rent, at the end of every nineteen years, of grassum entries, besides paying the present yearly rent, and all cess, teind, and publick burdens.

14th June, 1757.

The same day a motion was made by M^r John M^cCaull, merchant in Glasgow, one of the members of this house, Intimating the many inconveniences attending the trade of this place, arising from the present state of the River Clyde, by the frequent obstructions, and sometimes the absolute impossibility of transporting goods, betwixt

Glasgow and Port-Glasgow and Greenock, occasioned by the scarcity of Water, and many Shoals in the river, to the great discouragement of the trade of this City, and how much the same would be benefited by making the navigation in the said river more certain, easy, and commodious. Which motion being heard, the same was unanimously approved of, and the House came to the following resolution, viz^t., That the Dean of Guild, in name of this house, do immediately apply to, and address the Magistrates and Town Council of the City of Glasgow, and Request them to take such measures as shall appear to them most proper, for applying to Parliament, against the ensuing Session, For an Act to improve the navigation of the said river, by removing the Shoals, or making a Lock, or Locks, or otherwise rendering the carriage of goods, up and down said river, more easy, certain, and convenient, and for defraying the charges which must attend this undertaking; The members of this house are willing to subject their Shipping which shall discharge at any of the ports of Glasgow, and all gabarts, boats, and other vessels that shall pass or repass any Lock or Locks, to be made on said river, to such tolls or duties as shall be thought necessary, to Reimburse and indemnify the City of Glasgow, in whatever money shall be expended and bestowed in the said important work; and this House hereby promise and engage to give all their countenance and assistance in bringing about and perfecting this most necessary undertaking, as a matter of the greatest concern and utility to the publick in general, and to the Trade and Commerce of this City in particular.

1st November, 1764.

Which time and place, Arthur Connell, Merchant, now present, being returned, duly elected, Dean of Guild, to continue in office until the next ordinary time of election, after Michaelmass next, And the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House being now specially Convened, The said Dean of Guild exhibited and produced an

Extract of an Act of the Toun Council touching the filling up of the Merchants house, whereof the tenor follows, viz.:—

At Glasgow, the twenty-first day of November, seventeen hundred and sixty-four years.

The which day the Magistrats and Toun Council Conveened, Arthur Connell, Dean of Guild, Represented that on the day of his election he was indisposed, and confined to his house, and thereby hindered from Calling and Leeting the Merchants House, in terms of the regulations of the House, and that it might be necessary, for preventing all questions and objections against the Leeting and making up of the house, as not done that afternoon, that the authority of the Council were interponed to his Calling the house, and Leeting and making up the House, this afternoon, in the usual manner, and afterwards Choosing the Lyners; The Council interponed, and hereby interpone their authority, and enact and declare, that the calling, leeting, and making up of the house, this afternoon, shall be equally good and valid, as if done on the second Wednesday, after the election of the Magistrats, in October, in terms of the second regulation of the house.

15th May, 1765.

The Dean of Guild informed the house that he had called this Meeting to Represent to them that he had been disrespectfully treated in a matter of general concern to this City, lately brought before the Toun Council; and George Brown, late Dean of Guild, having also Represented that he had met with the like disrespectful treatment while he was in office, The House took the matter into their consideration, And it being observed by some of the Members that the most effectual remedy to this, and some other evils, would be an alteration of the Sett of the Burgh, as the reform made upon it in the year seventeen hundred and fourty eight seemed not to have answered the design, but the same complaint still subsisted that was then complained of, viz'.—that the present one “has a tendency to continue the government of the City in a particular set of men, longer than may be for the publick interest,” and that therefore alterations may be expedient.

After some reasoning thereon, a motion was made, that a Committee of this house be nominated and appointed to take under

consideration the present Sett or Constitution of the City, and to meet with The Lord Provost and Magistrats, or a Committee of the toun Council, and with the Deacon Conveener, and the Trades House, or a Committee of that house, upon this affair.

At the Merchants hall in Glasgow, the nineteenth day of December, One thousand seven hundred and sixty five years. Present, Arthur Connell, Dean of Guild, and his Council of the Merchants house, In a meeting extraordinary.

The Dean of Guild represented to the house that for some market days past there has been a scarcity of meal in the publick markets of this city, and that there was reason to fear a greater scarcity, unless proper ways and means for preventing thereof were not immediately pursued, and that the magistrates and Dean of Guild, from a generous concern for the welfare of the inhabitants, have been seriously deliberating on such ways and means, and are very desirous of concurring in, and carrying to execution, every prudent scheme for preventing the price of meal and grain from being raised to an immoderate rate, and for supplying the Inhabitants with meal on as easy terms as possible, and that the convener and Trades house were likewise desirous to concur in promoting and advancing those laudable purposes. The House, taking the above into their serious consideration, do heartily and unanimously approve of the aforesaid resolutions, to prosecute and follow out all proper ways and means for preventing the scarcity of meal and grain, and for raising the price thereof beyond a moderate rate in this place, and for supplying the Inhabitants with meal and grain on as easy terms as possible, in which this House shall join and give their assistance, and hereby Nominate and Appoint the Dean of Guild and George Brown, merchant, as a Committee of this house, giving them full power to meet with, and join the Magistrats and Toun Council, or their Committee, and concert, and put in execution

all such ways and means as shall appear reasonable to them, for purchasing meal and grain, and bringing the same to this City, for providing and supplying the Inhabitants at moderate rates, and to employ, and grant Commission to any person or persons they shall think fit, for that purpose, and to engage and bind this house to pay one fourth of the prices of the meal and grain to be purchased, and of the loss, if any shall be, on the same, The Toun Council being always liable for two fourth parts, and the Trades House for the other one fourth part of the said prices and loss, with proportional charges and expenses on the same; and Declare that one fourth part of the prices of the meal and grain so to be bought, and of the charges, expenses, and loss that shall attend the same, shall be a debt and burden on this house, and shall be paid and made good when necessary.

9th September, 1766.

The Committee for visiting the pensioners of the house Reported that they had discovered certain irregularities and mistakes, made by the officer, with respect to the accounts of the money put into his hands for paying the Pensioners; The House, for preventing such irregularities or mistakes for the future, Do appoint that printed Receipts shall be made out, and shall be quarterly subscribed by the pensioners for their respective pensions, and that the Collector, on each quarter's-term day, shall put the money in the officer's hands, to be paid to the several pensioners, and that the officer shall punctually report, and return to the Collector, particular receipts signed for the same, within fourteen days after each term day respectively, with an account of what deaths shall then have happened, in the List of pensioners, from the preceding payment.

9th December, 1766.

It is ordered and enacted that the Dean of Guild be provided with a suitable gold chain and medal pendent thereto, with proper devices,

to be at all times worn by the present Dean of Guild and his successors in office, as a badge of honour and distinction ; And that the Dean of Guild have the direction as to the form and execution of the said chain and medal, which is recommended to him to get finished as soon as may be. The expense whereof is to be paid from the funds of this house, and for which the Dean of Guild may draw on the Collector.

8th January, 1767.

The Dean of Guild represented to the house that a survey had been lately made of the grounds betwixt the mouth of Carron water and the river Clyde, near to Glasgow, in order to make a navigable canal of communication between Forth and Clyde, and there had been put into his hands an estimate of the expense of the same. The Dean of Guild and Merchants House having considered the foresaid Estimate, are unanimously of opinion that it will be of the greatest advantage to the trade, commerce, and manufactures of Britain, that a navigable Canal of communication be opened between the firth of Forth and the River of Clyde, and agree that a Petition be signed by the Merchants, Traders, and Manufacturers of this City, to the House of Commons, for Leave to bring a Bill, for the purpose aforesaid, and sent to the City member, to be presented in due time, and remit to a Committee of the House to prepare said Bill.

8th September, 1767.

The Committee taking into their consideration the Act of the Merchants House, of the tenth of March last (containing the remit to the Committee), and act of the Toun Council thereby referred to, which Act of the Toun Council mentions, that a Committee of the Council had reported, that the annual funds of the toun appeared to them to be nearly equal to the touns annual expense, and also that it would be very beneficial to the inhabitants if an additional number of lamps were provided, and the toun much better lighted than at present, the streets regularly cleaned, and watchmen appointed for watching the toun, But that such purposes could not be attained, in their opinion, from the present funds ;—This Committee are of opinion that the above improvements might

be beneficial to the inhabitants; But as the toun's annual funds are allowed to be nearly equal to the toun's annual expense, and that there is a prospect of their being soon considerably increased, It is expected that this increase will be fully adequate to the additional expense necessary for the above improvement, and therefore that no new tax will be necessary for these purposes. But considering that a part of the Toun's present revenue arises from the Ladle-tax on meal, made barley, salt, grots, beans and pease, wool, fruits, horse corn, wheat and flour, bear and malt, and other grain, Which Ladle-tax yields to the toun about Ten thousand merks, Scots, yearly, of which four thousand merks, Scots, arises yearly from the wheat and flour, and bear and malt, and the remaining six thousand merks, Scots, arises from the meal, grots, salt, wool, made barley, beans, pease, and other small articles, This Committee are unanimously of opinion that the part of the Ladle-tax, arising from wheat and flour, and from bear and malt, is an equal tax, that can be levied at a small expense, and therefore may be continued; And it appearing to this Committee that such part of the tax or Ladle-duty as arises from the meal, salt, and other small articles, is levied at a very great expense, and falls almost solely upon the poor, They are unanimously of opinion that that part of the Ladle-tax should be discontinued, and a fund provided that will yield to the toun six thousand merks, Scots, yearly, in lieu thereof, to be levied in a manner most equal to the inhabitants and least oppressive to the poor. This committee are also unanimously of opinion that, for the same reasons, the tax at present levied by the toun upon Eggs and milk, and upon fish and potatoes, which yields about five hundred merks, Scots, yearly, to the toun, should likewise be discontinued, and a fund provided equal to that annual sum. That for these purposes a Committee should be named by the Merchants House, to meet with Committees to be named by the Toun Council and Trades house, for providing the proper funds, so as the poorer part of the Inhabitants may be eased, without prejudice to the present revenue of the City.

Which Report being now read, the House delay the consideration thereof till another Meeting, that may be more fully convened than the present.

The Dean of Guild represented to the House that Mr. Smeaton, Engineer, had lately surveyed the Harbour of Port-Glasgow, and that a plan and estimate of the expense of repairing and improving thereof was making out. The house, in order to save time in a matter so beneficial to the Trade of this City, Nominate the Dean of Guild, Mr. Colin Dunlop, George Oswald, John Glassford, John M'Call, Alexander Speirs, Provost Cochran, and John Alston, Merchants, as a Committee to consider of the said plan and estimate, when made out, and to Report their opinion on the same to this house.

15th October, 1767.

The same day John Carlile gave in a resignation of his office as Collector to this House; and Thereupon the House, in respect that no Merchant is now claiming that office, do elect and appoint James Hill, writer in Glasgow, to be Collector to this house for the year ensuing, and until the next ordinary time of election, after Michaelmas next, and he is allowed a Salary after the rate of twenty pounds Sterling per annum, But with this proviso, That if it is the sense of this house, that the said office should be filled up by a merchant, properly qualified, and whose circumstances may require it, regard ought to be had to any such who may apply at next annual election.

28th October, 1767.

The Dean of Guild represented to the house That application is to be made to the parliament of Ireland, by divers persons of that kingdom, for a lighthouse to be erected, and a light to be maintained upon one of these rocks, known by the name of the North and South Rocks—very dangerous places, where many ships have been wrecked—Lying about a League off the coast of Ards, in the County of Down, which extend in so great shoalls to the eastward as to be, for the most part, in the course of all ships passing through the north channel, and that the wrecks and dangers complained of might be much guarded against, if not wholly prevented, by the said Light house and light, and that much of the shipping of Glasgow do pass and repass through the said channel, therefore, the trade of this city is much interested in the success of the said application; which being considered by this House, they agree that the Trade of Glasgow would be benefitted by such a Light, and therefore that application ought to be made in name of the Traders of Glasgow, for supporting the Irish Petition, and appoint Mr. Colin Dunlop, Mr. Dennistoun, and Bailie Gray, together with the Dean of Guild, to draw up, and get signed, and to transmit to the

Parliament of Ireland such application in the said matter, as they shall think fit.

28th January, 1768.

Which day, the Committee nominated by sederunt of the twenty-sixth day of January current, Gave in a report to this House, with Extract of the act of the Toun Council thereby referred to, which report and Extract of the Act of the Toun Council were both now severally Read to the house, and after some reasoning thereupon, the question was put, "Approve of the said Report, or not," and it carried, Approve—Therefore, this House do hereby Approve of the said Report of their Committee, and appoint the same, and the said Extract of Act of Toun Council to be ingrossed in the Books of this House, whereof the tenors follow; And first follows the tenor of the said Extract of Act of the Toun Council :—

At Glasgow, the twenty-sixth day of January, seventeen hundred and sixty-eight years.

The which day there was presented to the Magistrats and Council, now convened, By the said John Campbell, Dean of Guild, Provost Cochrane, M^r Glassford, M^r Oswald, M^r Ritchie, and M^r Smellie, an Extract of this date, signed by John Buchanan, junior, Clerk to the Merchants House of Glasgow, whereof the tenor follows:—Merchants Hall in Glasgow, the 26th January, 1768,—Resolved by the Dean of Guild and Merchants House, that the Bill now depending in Parliament relating to the Bridge, and for purchasing houses and lands, for building an Exchange, and for making avenues to the new Church, should be delayed for this session of parliament, and until such bill be considered by this house, and others of the Inhabitants, and that the Magistrats and Toun Council should be desired to drop the bill for this session of Parliament accordingly, and if they should refuse or delay to comply with that request, That the house, or a Committee to be by them named, should petition the parliament that the Bill may not at present pass into a law; Resolved also, that in case the Magistrats and Toun Council shall agree to delay their Bill for this session, and that if the Country gentlemen shall, notwithstanding, apply to parliament for a bill to build a bridge, to be under the management of the sd gentlemen, That this house will join in opposing such Bill of the Country gentlemen, and will support the Magistrats and Council in forwarding a bill next session of parliament, for building a bridge to be under the direction of the Magistrats and Council.

The Magistrats and Council Having considered the above-mentioned Extract and

Resolution of the Merchants House, and that the Magistrats and Council, on all occasions, have paid due regard to the representations of the Merchants House, when communicated to the Council in a proper manner, They cannot on this occasion suppress their surprize at the unexpected, unconstitutional attack, made by the said House on the rights of the City Council, totally inconsistent with due subordination and good order, when they Resolve a measure, agreed to unanimously by the Council, in presenting a petition and bill to Parliament, which are now depending in the House of Commons, should be delayed until such bill be considered by the Merchants House, and declaring that if the delay should be refused, that the said House, or a Committee to be by them named, would petition parliament that the bill might not at present pass into a law. The Magistrats and Council cannot on this occasion, consistent with their honor and dignity, as representing the whole community of the City of Glasgow, acquiesce in the demand made, and Reserve to themselves to consider how far this procedure of the Merchants House is warrantable, and as no sort of reason is assigned in the Extract from the Merchants house, produced, for delaying the prosecution of the Toun's bill, now depending in Parliament, nor any good purpose whatever mentioned that would accrue by the delay proposed, and that the Merchants House resolved to contribute their aid to the passing of the said Bill next session of parliament, providing the insisting in it this session be delayed, shows no solid objection lies in their view against the said Bill, Therefore, adhere to their former acts of Council for obtaining the Bill, now depending in Parliament, concerning the intended new Bridge, past into a law as speedily as possible.

Follows the tenor of the before-mentioned Report of the Committee of this House :—

Report of the Committee of the Merchants house :—

The Committee waited on the Magistrats, and laid before them an Extract of the resolutions of this House, In answer to which they have received an extract of an act of Council of the said Magistrats and Toun Council, dated the said twenty-sixth day of January, seventeen hundred and sixty-eight, which they now deliver with this Report, Humbly proposing That this House should enter into the following resolutions :—

1st. That the said Act of Council is not satisfactory to this House, and that the complaint made by the Magistrats and Council of the resolutions of this House being unconstitutional is groundless, being founded on an omission in the Clerk, in omitting in the extract of the resolutions, these words, "That it is the opinion of," which omission was proposed to be rectified, but refused to be admitted by the Magistrats and Council, though it was well known to be a mere omission of the Clerk by several of the Magistrats and Councillors, members of this House, who were present when these resolutions were agreed to.

2nd. That the complaint of the Magistrats and Council that no reasons are assigned, in the Extract from this house, for delaying the prosecution of the bill now depending in Parliament, is equally groundless, Because these reasons were given at great length in the house, in presence of several of the Magistrats and Councillors, which in general were, that great dissatisfaction had arisen amongst many of the Inha-

bitants, upon account of the concealed manner, in which they apprehended, this bill had been carried on, That this house was much displeased that no communication was made to them, of the intention of the Magistrats and Council to apply to parliament for a bill, by which the rights and property of the Inhabitants of this City may be greatly affected. That the House was informed that this Bill, if passed into a law, would vest the Magistrats and Council with very unnecessary, extraordinary, and unlimited powers, particularly to erect and build an Exchange, in such form and manner as the Magistrats and Council shall think fit, and to pay for the same out of such sums as they shall be able to raise by voluntary contributions, or out of the common stock, funds, and patrimony of the corporation and community of the said City, whereby a boundless expense may be laid out on this Exchange, which the funds of this City are noways able to bear, and that the Magistrats and Council had proceeded in a very precipitate and unprecedented manner, without having any plan, or any estimate of the expense of building this Exchange, and without having communicated their intention to the Merchants and other Inhabitants of this City, for whose use it is said to be intended : That this house was informed that a powerful opposition was raised to some parts of the Bill by the noblemen and gentlemen of the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew, and which this house was apprehensive would in all probability defeat the Bill, for this Session of Parliament, now so far advanced, and that a very considerable sum of money would be thereby wantonly thrown away. That this House expressed their hopes and wishes, that if the Bill was delayed for this session, that a Bill might be agreed to, in an amicable manner, so as to give satisfaction to all parties concerned, and might be passed in the next session of Parliament without incurring any extraordinary expense. These were some of the reasons on which the House grounded their desire to the Magistrats and Council to delay the Bill for this session.

3rd. That the threatening contained in the said Act of Council, by which the Magistrats and Council reserve to themselves to consider how far the proceedure of this house is warrantable, is very unbecoming, and highly disrespectful to this house, who, being much interested in the welfare and prosperity of this City, had and have nothing in view, but to promote its interests as far as in their power, and at the same time to testify all regard and respect for the Magistrats and Council, consistent with the freedom and liberty of the citizens of Glasgow.

4th. That the Magistrats and Council have mistaken the resolution of this House, wherein they promise, that in case the Magistrats and Council should agree to delay the Bill for this session, that they would support them in forwarding a Bill next session of Parliament, By which they did not mean to support the very bill now depending in Parliament, but such a bill as should appear just and reasonable.

5th. That they apprehend it is the right and priviledge of this House, to be informed of every Bill, proposed to be brought into Parliament by the Magistrats and Council, by which the rights and interests of the Inhabitants of this City may be affected, before application is made to Parliament.

6th. That this House should appoint a Committee of their number to wait on the Magistrats and Council, and to propose such alterations and amendments on the Bill,

as may appear to them just and reasonable, and as the shortness of time will permit, and that this house again request the Magistrats and Council to delay the farther prosecution of this Bill for this session, in order that the Bill may be more maturely considered, and every exceptionable clause removed, so as to prevent all opposition to the Bill, and thereby save to the town the extraordinary expense that must be incurred by prosecuting it at present; and in the meantime, until a report is made by the said Committee, that the house should take no further steps as to presenting a Petition to Parliament against the Bill now depending. All which is humbly submitted to this House, that they may do therein as to them shall seem proper.

And thereupon the House nominated the Members of the said former Committee, together with Mr. Laurence Colquhoun and Provost Bowman, whereof any five, the Dean of Gild being one, to be a quorum, as a Committee of this house, for the ends and purposes mentioned in the said Report, and appoint this Committee, or their quorum, to wait upon the Magistrats, and give to them an Extract of this Act, so as it may be laid before the Town Council, and ordain this Committee to give in their Report to this House as soon as may be, so as the same may be taken under consideration of the house.

4th February, 1768.

Which day the Dean of Guild acquainted the House, that the Committee of the City Council had informed him, that they had wrote to the Lord Provost last Monday's night, that it was their opinion the Bill for the Bridge, &c., now depending in Parliament, should not be insisted in, this session of Parliament; From which they infer it will not be insisted in. And a motion being made, that the thanks of this house should be returned to the Magistrats and Town Council for the regard they have shewn to the sentiments of this house, in agreeing to delay, for this session, the said Bill, The said motion was agreed to by the House: and the Dean of Guild is desired to return the thanks of this House to the Magistrats and Town Council accordingly.

29th May, 1769.

Which day Archibald Smellie, Dean of Guild of the City of Glasgow, and his Council, Members of the Merchant's House of the said City, being convened, they took into their consideration an advertisement, published in the Glasgow and Edinburgh Newspapers of last week, to the following effect, viz^t.:—

“That a Banking Company, lately entered into by a considerable number of Merchants in Glasgow, and others in different places of this Kingdom, had begun to issue notes under the firm of The Merchant Banking Company of Glasgow, signed by Robert M'Lintok and Andrew Carrick, as two of the partners, and by John Auld, as their cashier.”

And as the firm assumed by the issuers of these notes may induce the public to imagine, that this Society of the Merchants House of Glasgow, or some of the Members thereof, are concerned in the Banking Company aforesaid, It was unanimously Resolved, That as neither the Merchants House of Glasgow, nor any of the Members thereof, to the knowledge of this Meeting, are partners in the abovementioned new Banking Company, so this Society should, and do hereby, publicly disclaim their having any interest or concern in that Banking Company, and ordain this Minute, for that purpose, to be inserted in the Glasgow and Edinburgh Newspapers.

12th October, 1769.

The said day it was moved in the house, that the price of Coals in the neighbourhood of Glasgow was risen to an excessive rate of late, The House considering this as a matter that deserved the utmost attention, did nominate The Dean of Guild, Provost Cochran, Provost Ingram, George Brown, John M'Call, David Dalziell, William Coats, Alexander Speirs, and Daniel Baxter, merchants, as a Committee of this House, any Four to be a quorum, the Dean of Guild being one, To wait upon the Magistrats and Committees of the Toun Council, and Committees that may be named from any of the other Societies

and Inhabitants of this City, in order to consider and point out the most proper ways and means for lowering the price of Coals, and for having the inhabitants served with this necessary article on reasonable terms, and to report.

31st July, 1770.

Which day the Committee of this house, appointed to examine and enquire into the state of the Case with respect to a bargain, alleged on the part of the Town Council to have been made with the said house, concerning a grant or feu of certain of the house's grounds, lying in Saint Enoch's or Broomielaw Croft, and of the Town Mill dam and skirts, Gave in to the house their Report upon the said matters, whereof the tenor follows, viz^t:—

The Committee having caused diligent search to be made into the Sederunt Books of the Merchants House, and having required the like search to be made in the books of the Town Council, for what acts or authorities might therein appear, touching the above-mentioned alleged bargain; And having caused a Memorial on the part of the Merchants House to be drawn up concerning that Matter, and Considered the same, together with a Memorial in relation to the same matter, given in on the part of the Town Council, and the Excerpts and papers relative to these Memorials; And the Committee having had several Meetings by themselves, and likewise a Meeting with a Committee named by the Town Council thereupon, The Committee of the Merchants House, upon consideration of the whole state of the case, Do make the following Report, Humbly submitting the same to the deliberation and judgement of the House.

It is the opinion of the Committee,

1. That the Merchants House of Glasgow is a legal Society or Corporation.
2. That the Corporation of the Merchants House stand legally vested in the property of certain valuable lands in Broomielaw Croft, Saint Enoch's Croft, and Saint Enoch's Kirk Yard, consisting of eight and one-half acres of ground, or thereabout, lying within the royalty of the City of Glasgow, and in the immediate vicinity of the buildings of that City and harbour, and that they hold this property as administrators for the poor of the said house.
3. That the Minutes or Acts of the Corporation of the Merchants House, as entered in their sederunt books, are the only authorized rules whereby their Society is governed, and their funds managed, disposed of, and distributed, and that no act or deed can warrantably be done or executed by them, without such authority.
4. That the same rule holds good in the Town Council, and in every other regular Corporation.

5. That from the Minutes in the Sederunt books of the Merchants House, dated the 22d November, 1750, 24th April, 1751, 19th December, 1752, and 14th December, 1756, It appears the House have intended to make a grant to the Town Council of Saint Enochs Kirk Yard, and a part of the Croft on the east side of the burn, But this expressly for the special purpose of a market for live Cattle, the Toun Council being to enclose the ground, and to pay a yearly duty; yet it does not appear from the Sederunt books that the terms of that grant were ever fixed.

6. That this intended grant could only be for a small part of the grounds, being solely for the purpose of a market for live cattle, and it was limited to Saint Enoch's Kirk yard, and a part of the Croft on the east side of the burn; whereby it appears the Town Council were not to have the whole Croft on the east side of the burn, and no part of the Croft on the west side of the burn; and a great part of the said Eight and one half acres of land lye upon the west side of the burn.

7. That from the Minutes of the Sederunt book of the Merchants House it appears the house meant to limit the intended grant, above-mentioned, to a small piece of their ground on the east side of the burn, for a live Cattle Market; For by these Minutes the house reserved the rest of their ground, and had formed a scheme for a street to be made thereon, and to grant feues of steadings, for building houses on each side, as the property of the house, and for the benefit of their poor.

8. That the Town Council have not complied with the condition of the said intended grant, by employing the small piece of ground, meant to be given them, for a market for live cattle, nor, as above said, have ever the terms of that grant been fixed.

9. That there is no act entered in the Toun Council books authorizing so much as a communing, far less concluding, any bargain concerning all, or any part, of the Merchants houses eight and one half acres of ground, not even that but intended for the live Cattle Market, so far as this Committee can learn, Consequently that no regular bargain at all was made, neither party being bound.

10. That Mr. John Wilson, late Collector of the house, his entering jottings in his books, mentioning that the toun Council had agreed to feu from the house their whole foresaid eight and one half acres of ground, for the small sum of Thirteen pounds, Sterling, yearly, and the like small sum in name of grassum at first, and at the end of every Nineteen years, or that such feu was to be granted, And Mr. Wilsons entering accounts for that feu duty, and receiving the same, and the succeeding Collectors continuing such accounts, and receiving payments thereon, And an unsigned Contract produced by the Town Council, wherein the skirts and miln dam are left out, and which refers to Acts of the Merchant's House, and Acts of the Toun Council which have no existence, Are all the grounds upon which the Toun Council, found their claim, alleging that by these means *res non est, integra*; It is the opinion of this Committee that the foresaid accounts, and the said transactions of Mr. Wilson, and the Consequential receipts of the rent or duty, from the year 1751 to the year 1769, when the Collector was inhibited to receive any farther payments, and the said unsigned Contract, were altogether unauthorized by the Minutes of the Merchants House, and can lay no foundation for granting such a feu.

11. That no such feu Contract or Disposition was ever executed by the Merchants House, and therefore that the town Council, their taking possession of the grounds, contrary to the Minutes of the house, above referred to, and holding them since the year 1754, selling and disposing thereof, according to the pleasure of the Toun Council, was unwarrantable.

12. That by reason of the very advantageous situation of the grounds, the said eight and one-half acres of land are worth to the house and their poor a very large sum, abstract from any buildings erected thereon.

13. That the executing a feu right to the Toun Council, upon the terms claimed by them, would be a dilapidation and misapplication of the funds of the poor of the Merchants House, which the administrators for them are no ways warranted to do.

14. That therefore the House cannot and ought not to grant any feu disposition to the said grounds, unless for adequate valuable considerations, and by authority of express acts, to be engrossed in their sederunt Books, specifying the particular terms and conditions of the sale.

And this Committee proposed, as their opinion, to the Committee of the toun Council, that the aforesaid questions should be amicably adjusted and determined by arbitration, and submitted to some of the judges of the Court of Session, or other eminent lawyers, to be mutually chosen by both parties; That the Toun Council's Committee did not incline to that measure, but promised to take the advice of the toun Council thereon; yet no report hath been made that the Council hath taken any notice of the same.

Upon the whole, It is the opinion of this Committee, that in case the Magistrats and toun Council Refuse to submit the matters in question, as above-mentioned, The Merchants House ought immediately to use and take all proper measures for operating, prosecuting, and exercising their right to the above-mentioned eight and one-half acres of ground.

As to the Toun Miln dam and skirts, This Committee do not find in the Sederunt books of the Merchants House the terms and conditions upon which a feu of the same was to be granted, nor that there is any authority in the town Council books for taking such a feu, and therefore Report that this article falls under the same observations with the other.

Which Report being read in, and Considered by the House, They, the Merchants House in Glasgow did, and hereby do approve of the same, and appoint the Dean of Gild to deliver a copy of the said Report to the Lord Provost, to be by him laid before the toun Council of Glasgow; and the Dean of Gild to request the toun Council to lodge their answer with him, eight days before the next quarterly Meeting of this house, which falls on the second Tuesday of September next.

30th December, 1772.

Which day the Dean of Gild and Merchants house taking into their consideration the present distressed state of the poor in this City, particularly of the manufacturers, many of whom are out of work, by which, and by the dearth of provisions, are in a starving condition, The House are of opinion, and Recommend, that a voluntary contribution for the poor should be immediately collected, and that the mode of this should be, that each person should, by his own discretion, put in a sum equal to sixpence of the hundred pounds, Sterling, of what he judges himself to be effectively worth, and this should be put into a locked box, secretly, which is not to be opened till the contribution is finished.

It is agreed to by the house that the matter of Saint Enoch's Croft, &c., as mentioned in former sederunts, be submitted to M^r Robert M^cQueen and M^r Islay Campbell, advocates, as arbiters, to determine the same; and in case of difference between them, to an Oversman, to be named by the said Arbiters; and the Dean of Gild and Collector are authorized to sign the said submission, on the part of this house.

16th March, 1773.

Also the said Committee farther reported that it was their opinion that, with respect to the present Matriculated Members of the Merchants house, it shall be optional to each of them, either to continue in the payment of four Shillings, Sterling, yearly, as formerly, or to redeem the same by payment of fourty Shillings, Sterling, upon which they shall be free of all annual payments in time coming; And with respect to entering Matriculated Members in time to come, each entrant shall pay in to the Collector, for the use of the poor, at least the sum of four pounds, Sterling, as the minimum, and thereupon they are to be free of all annual payments, and this to be observed as the rule, in place of all former practice.

The House appointed the Dean of Gild, M^r John Campbell, and M^r Clark, as a Committee of this house, to consider of the most effectual means for preventing begging in the streets, and at houses, in this city, and for expelling all stranger beggars, and to meet with the Committees of the other Societies in the City on these matters, and to Report their opinion to the house, as soon as may be.

14th March, 1775.

The Committee Recommend it to the house to consider how far it will be proper to have a light house erected and maintained on the Island of Plada, for the benefit of navigation; and, if found proper, to prepare and make up a Bill, to be presented next session of Parliament.

20th September, 1775.

Which day the Dean of Gild reported to the house that a draught of a Contract and Conveyance between this house and the Magistrats and town Council of Glasgow was made out for Saint Enoch's Croft, and other lands adjacent, in terms of the decreet arbitral thereanent, and the same being given in and read, The House approves the said draught, and authorizes the Dean of Gild and Collector, in name of this house, to execute the same, when extended.

29th November, 1775.

Which day there was laid before the house a proposal by the Magistrats and Town Council, Contained in their Act of Council, dated the twenty third current, an Extract whereof was given in and read, and whereof the tenor follows :—

At Glasgow, the twenty-third day of November, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-five years.

The which day the Magistrats and Council of the City of Glasgow being in Committee assembled, a Report of the Committee appointed by Act of Council of the ninth of November current, for considering the propriety of applying to Parliament, for extending the royalty of the City of Glasgow, lighting and paving the streets thereof, and bringing good water into the City, was given in, whereof the tenor follows:— Meeting of Committee of Council, 15th Nov^r, 1775; Convened Provost Buchanan, Bailies Gordon and M^cCall, John Campbell, Dean of Gild, Conveener John Craig, Bailie Brodie, John Clark, Robert Auchencloss, Walter Stirling, William Ewing, Bailie Niven. The Committee having laid before them a proposal for applying to Parliament, for an extension of the Royalty of the City of Glasgow, They, previous to giving any opinion on the matter, appoint Dean of Gild Campbell and Bailie Clark, two of their number, to wait on M^r Orr of Barrowfield, and M^r Campbell of Blythwood, and his doers, and Learn from them if they will agree to the extension of the royalty over their grounds in the contiguity of the City, or if they will not oppose the application for the said extension. It being next proposed that the Committee should consider how far it is proper to bring in good fresh water to the City of Glasgow, for the benefit and health of its Inhabitants, And the matter being Considered by the Committee, they report to the Council, that it is their unanimous opinion it will be for the benefit and health of its inhabitants to bring good fresh water into the City, and that the Council should recommend to the Dean of Gild and Deacon Conveener to meet with their respective houses, and get their opinion if it will be agreeable to them to have good fresh water brought into the City, for the benefit of the inhabitants. (sic sub^r) Jas. Buchanan. Which Report being Considered by the Magistrats and Council now Convened, they approve thereof, and Recommend to the Dean of Guild and Deacon Conveener to learn from their respective houses, if they will agree to a reasonable tax being laid on, for defraying the expense of bringing good fresh water into the City, and also for the better lighting and cleaning the streets; and remit to the former Committee on these matters to receive and consider plans and estimates of the expense of bringing water into, and better cleaning and lighting the streets of the said City, and how and in what manner the expense for answering these purposes is to be raised, and to give in their report thereanent, and recommend to the Dean of Guild and Deacon Conveener to meet and convene the members of their respective houses, to lay the premises before them, so as to report the opinion of their respective houses thereanent to the Council, on the twenty-ninth day of November current, at twelve o'clock: of which day appoint a Council to be held, for receiving the said reports as to the opinion of the said two Houses.

The House having considered the said Extract and proposal, are of opinion that it will be greatly for the benefit and health of the inhabitants to bring in good fresh water into the City, and the

members of this house will agree to a reasonable tax being laid on for defraying the expense of so doing, whenever such expense can be properly judged of; and the most proper and easiest mode of raising the tax can be ascertained; and for this purpose they are of opinion that enquiry ought to be made in what manner, and from what place water may be procured of best quality, in greatest plenty, and at the least expense; and that proper persons ought to be employed to survey and examine the fountains, streams, &c., in the neighbourhood of this City, and the grounds through which the water must be conveyed, and to make out plans of the manner of conducting it, and estimates of the expense; and enquiry ought to be made how this matter has been managed, and how the expense has been levied in other touns where water has been brought in. The House are of opinion that until these things are done, it would be premature to apply to Parliament. With regard to the better lighting and cleaning the streets of this City, it would no doubt be a very proper improvement, and ought to be done, and if the funds of the Corporation do not admit of their being at the expense of it, the Members of this House will agree to a reasonable tax being laid, in proper manner, for defraying the said expense; And the House appoint the Dean of Guild, M^r Dennistoun, M^r Speirs, M^r Glassford, M^r Peter Murdoch, M^r George Oswald, and M^r John McCall, as a Committee of this house, to receive from the Magistrats and Council the informations necessary for enabling the house to judge of the propriety or impropriety of the measures proposed, and to lay the same before this House. And farther, upon a motion made by M^r Geo. Oswald and seconded, the house are of opinion that there is not proper time to apply to Parliament this Session.

28th April, 1777.

Which day the Dean of Gild represented to the House, that a bill is brought into Parliament for making an alteration of the laws and

regulations respecting the importation and exportation of Corn into and from Scotland, of which bill he produced a copy; And the said Bill being read to, and fully considered by the House, They are unanimously of opinion, that should said Bill pass into a law it will be of the most hurtfull consequence to the commerce and manufactures of Scotland, and therefore that the same ought to be opposed in every stage. And this House are unanimously resolved and determined to join and concur with the Magistrats and Toun Council of Glasgow, and all other Societies and persons in this City, or their Committees, who have agreed or shall agree to oppose the said bill.

And the following Members of the House present at this Meeting, viz^t:—

The Dean of Gild,	James M ^c Call,
Lord Provost,	Alex ^r M ^c Call,
Bailie French,	George M ^c Call,
Bailie Craufurd,	James Gordon,
Provost Buchanan,	Walter Stirling,
John Campbell of Clathick,	James Ritchie,
George Oswald,	Daniel Campbell,
John M ^c Call,	Henry Ritchie,
John Alston,	John Glassford,
Jas. Dennistoun,	Alexander Speirs,
Alex ^r Gordon,	William Lang,
Will ^m Dunlop,	Tho ^r Hopkirk,
Thomas Dunlop,	

Do undertake to pay one third of the expense of opposing the said Bill, and to raise the same by subscription; It being understood that the Magistrats and toun Council will also raise one third of the said expense, and the trades house in Glasgow the other third part thereof.

And the House nominate Messrs. James M^cCall, Henry Ritchie, and James Dennistoun, as a Committee, to procure subscriptions from the Merchants in Glasgow, for the above purpose.

Also nominate the Dean of gild, Mr. James Ritchie, Mr. George Oswald, or any two of them, the Dean of Gild being one, as a Committee of this House, to meet with the Magistrats and Toun Council,

(The only Act of Parliament relating to Corn, passed in the year 1777, was the 17th Geo. 3^d, Cap. 44, continuing for seven years longer the Statute 10th Geo. 3^d, Cap. 39, for "regulating the prices at which Corn is sold in the several Counties of Great Britain, and the quantity exported and imported," whereby it was enacted, that the Justices of the Peace for each County should order returns to be made Weekly of the prices of Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, Beans, and Bear, from such Market towns as they shall think proper, not being less than two nor more than six within any County.)

29th January, 1778.

Which day it was unanimously agreed and enacted by the House, so far as their interest extends, that for the greater encouragement of men to enlist into the Glasgow Regiment, now raising for His Majesty's service, all soldiers who have been, or shall, betwixt and the first day of May next, be enlisted, attested, and received into the said Regiment, shall, upon their being discharged from the same, be entitled to the freedom of this City as Burgesses and gild brothers, in the most full and ample form, free of all burgh fines. And it is declared that in the event of any of such soldiers dying in the service of said regiment, their families shall be entitled to all the privileges.

17th March, 1778.

Same day it is ordered and enacted by the House, that for the future, The Dean of Gild for the time being shall not grant allowance to any persons whatsoever to lodge goods, or lay goods, barrels, timber, or other articles, either in the Merchants Hall or Garret above the same, or lobby leading thereto, on any account whatever, excepting goods that shall be removed on distress of fire, or damage by water, and these for a short time only.

N.B.—The enactment anent laying goods in the hall, &c., to be read at the annual elections.

10th February, 1779.

Which day the Dean of Gild, and Merchants, and Merchants house,

taking into their serious consideration the daring and outrageous riot, that happened in this City last night, Take this opportunity to declare unanimously their abhorrence thereof, and that they are willing, and will be ready, to assist the Magistrates to preserve the peace of the City, and bring to condign punishment all who have dared, or shall in future presume, to disturb the peace of the City.

4th February, 1780.

Which day it was agreed by the Meeting, that the Dean of Gild shall be allowed to order the Collector to pay for two hundred Carts of Coals, to be distributed amongst the poor by the Ministers of the City, in any manner they think most proper.

11th September, 1781.

Which day the House appoints The Dean of Guild, and others, as a committee, to consider of the measures most proper to be taken for bringing about the establishment of post from London by Carlisle, Moffat, and Douglas Miln to Glasgow.

12th March, 1782.

Resolved unanimously, That the House do highly approve of the measures taken by the Committee of Royal Boroughs, and the Gentlemen who have assisted them, in collecting the sense of the Traders of Scotland, and preparing a Bill, to be brought into Parliament, not only for preventing all undue preferences, obtaining a full and fair surrender of the insolvent debtors estate, and establishing rules for managing and winding up the same, under Trustees named by the Creditors, but also, and particularly, for comprehending and bringing under the same management, the real or heritable property of insolvent Merchants and Traders, in order to save the tedious delay and enormous expense attending the Judicial ranking of Creditors, and sale of lands in

Scotland, and likewise for entitling an honest, though unfortunate, debtor, upon a fair and full surrender of his whole Estate, real and personal, to a Discharge, under proper limitations and restrictions.

9th October, 1782.

At same time the House received the following Report of the Committee appointed last meeting upon the Marine Bill, which Report the House ordered to be recorded, viz':—

We have carefully perused the Marine Bill, transmitted by Sir Herbert Mackworth to the Lord Provost, and referred to us by this House, in their Minute of the 17th ulto.

We find that, agreeable to the title, the great object of that Bill is to supply with Seamen His Majesty's ships of war. That great advantages are therein held out, to induce seamen to enter voluntarily into a Fellowship, subjecting themselves to serve in the Navy, whenever called upon. That the general regulations of the Bill will tend to facilitate the pressing of men, if that should at any time become unavoidable by the number of fellowship seamen proving insufficient to answer the exigency of the State. But we are of opinion that many of the regulations in this Bill will prove burthensome to trade at all times, and especially in time of war. The obligation on all shipmasters, to take none but such sailors as have duly registered themselves; the masters of Crews when outward bound, and again on their return, and accounting for the difference, if any; the mode of taking apprentices, and giving them a previous trial, and option of quitting the profession after such trial, may all occasion some inconvenience; and the calling on the Fellowship seamen to serve in the Navy, producing an embargo until that call be finished, and longer, if thought necessary by the Marine board, may prove a great hardship on Trade. There is also a tax of three pence per Ton, yearly, on all ships and vessels not belonging to His Majesty, and on all Barges, Lighters, heels, or boats of twenty tons burthen, and upwards, and sixpence per month payable by all seamen not of the Fellowship, with sundry fees for Certificates of Registration, &c., payable by all sailors and seafaring people, and Jobbers on board ships. These are the burthens, and we cannot take upon ourselves to determine whether the advantages to trade, likely to arise from this Bill, will counter balance them, because we are not judges how far the inducements offered are likely to prevail on the British Sailors in general, to enter into the Fellowship proposed; but if it could be hoped that they would do so, and that pressing would become unnecessary in manning the Navy, there could, in our opinion, remain no doubt of the propriety of the Trades adopting this Bill.

10th October, 1782.

They also enacted that the fine of Two shillings and sixpence for

being absent from the ordinary Meetings of this House shall not only be extended to five shillings, but that in future, all members of this House shall be liable in payment of that sum who are absent from the ordinary Meetings of this House, if at the time they are at their usual place of residence, whatever distance such residence may be from Glasgow.

7th January, 1783.

The House unanimously empower the Dean of Guild to subscribe two hundred pounds, Sterling, to be paid into the Common stock now raising from Communities and Individuals, in order to enable the Magistrates to make good any deficiency which may arise in consequence of their engagements for grain, as well as to aid in paying Bounties.

And the House having farther deliberated on this subject, and considering the large quantities of grain, of all kinds, at present consumed in the Distilleries, are unanimously of opinion that the present crisis appears from the evidence before them fully to justify the propriety of a temporary suspension of the Distillery in Great Britain, to obtain which it is earnestly recommended to The Dean of Guild, the Lord Provost and Magistrates, by this House, to adopt such legal and proper steps, for suspending the consumption of grain in making spirits, as they shall judge proper, either by entreating the Annual Committee of the Convention of Royal Burroughs, or by such other mode of application as shall bring this matter speedily under the consideration of Parliament.

14th March, 1786.

The Committee appointed 14th December, 1784, to review the Constitution and Regulations of the House, and to suggest such new Regulations or alterations as shall seem proper to be laid before the House, gave in the following Report :—

Report of the Committee appointed to review the Constitution and Rules of the Merchants House.

Your Committee, in obedience to the orders of the House, have had under their consideration the different matters remitted to them, but have been at a considerable loss for want of the Sederunt Books belonging to the House, none of which, at the time of their appointment, were to be found prior to the year 1754. Since that time the Sederunt Book from October, 1676, to October, 1709, has been recovered from among the papers of the deceased John Buchanan, Clerk to the House; But the Books before that period, together with the Sederunt Books from October, 1709, to 9th October, 1754, are still wanting, though, from a Report given in by a Committee of the House in 1770, when M^r Smellie was Dean of Guild, these last appear to have been then in possession of that Committee.

From the Books and papers, however, which they have had access to, and from every information they have been able to procure, they now submit what appears to them to be the Rules and Regulations of the House; Also, the Stock and Revenue of the House, with an Account of the different limited Mortifications, and the rules and restrictions under which these are bestowed.

Your Committee would only suggest, in addition to these Rules and Regulations, that in the event of Pensioners leaving the City, and having their pensions continued, that they should produce to the Collector a certificate—signed by a Magistrate, Minister, or Justice of the Peace, in the Parish in which they reside—of their being alive, and that a similar certificate should also be produced by the friends or relations of any pensioner, living in Glasgow, who is not able to sign the receipt themselves, from sickness; old age, or infirmity.

They also suggest that it might be proper, that every matriculated Member should receive a Ticket, signed by the Dean of Guild and Collector, certifying their matriculation, and that complete lists should be made up in a Book or Books, to be kept for that purpose,—1st, of all the matriculated members since the year 1747, with the dates of their entry and their designations, as exactly as can be procured; 2^d, of all those who have signed the Gold Book; and 3^d, of all those who have either given donations or mortifications to the House; which lists ought not only to be kept in the beginning of the Book, in the order of time, but afterwards in separate pages, alphabetically, with proper references, and be regularly continued each year, and produced to the Annual Committee and General Meeting in March, or oftener if asked for.

ABSTRACT OF THE CONSTITUTION, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE MERCHANTS HOUSE.

The Rules and Regulations of the Merchants House are contained in the Letter of Guildry, which was approved and ratified by the Magistrates and Council, in 1605, and confirmed by Act of Parliament, 11th September, 1672; in certain Regulations agreed to 23^d April, 1747, and confirmed by the Magistrates and Council 7th May, the same year; and in other Regulations entered into 23^d April, 1754; together with sundry bye-laws made at different times.

Agreeable to these, the management of the funds and affairs of the House is committed to the Dean of Guild, and a certain number of persons, called his Council or assistants, elected annually, in manner after-mentioned.

The Dean of Guild must be a Merchant; he becomes by office a member of the Toun Council; and is elected upon the second Wednesday after the election of the Magistrates, as follows:—The former Dean of Guild and his Council meet in the Merchants Hall, at ten in the forenoon, the major part being a quorum, when the Dean of Guild makes up leets of the thirty-six members of his Council, from which leets the Dean of Guild, Merchant Magistrates, Collector, and the said thirty-six persons, or their quorum, in case of the Dean of Guild for the time has been then two years in office, make choice of three of their number out of the said thirty-six, but in case the Dean of Guild for the time has been only one year in office, they then make choice but of two persons, who are to be added to the said present Dean of Guild, as the leet to be presented to the Magistrates, Town Council, and Deacons of Crafts, that one of the said three may be chosen to bear office as Dean of Guild for the ensuing year. At the same time, so many of their number are named to present this leet to the Council, and to vote in the election of the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener, as will balance the Deacons of Crafts at said election.

Though the Dean of Guild may convene the Council or assistants, and also the whole recorded Members of the House, as often as he shall think proper, for ordering the business of the Hospital or other necessary affairs, yet there are certain fixed and stated Meetings which must be regularly called.

The first of these is on the afternoon of the day of election of the Dean of Guild, and is the only regular Meeting of the whole recorded Members.

At first, every person who entered Burgess and Guild Brother, and paid the fines accordingly, was a Member of the Merchant Company. In the year 1747 all Traders, foreign or domestic, who should pay to the Collector of the House five shillings, Sterling, and engaged to pay four shillings, annually, were declared to be admitted and recorded as the only members of the Merchants House; And in March, 1773, it was enacted that the quarter accounts should be abolished, except to the then members, who were to have it in their option, either to continue to pay four shillings, yearly, or forty shillings in full, and that every new member should pay at his entry four pounds, Sterling, in full of all quarters accounts and entry money.

The whole recorded Members being warned to this Meeting, the Dean of Guild, who formerly used to nominate the whole members of the House, now only makes choice of twelve, either foreign or domestic Traders, as he pleases, and then leets the remaining members into twenty-four leets, whereof twelve are to be foreign, and twelve home Traders. By plurality of voices one is chosen from each leet, making up twenty-four persons, who, with the twelve nominated by the Dean of Guild, together with the Merchant Magistrates and Collector for the time, compose the Dean of Guilds Council, and with him represent the community of the Merchant House, for the ensuing year, to the next usual time of election.

If a Dean of Guild is chosen who does not accept the office, the Town Council pass an act, authorizing the Provost to name a day, for electing another in his place.

If the Dean of Guild does not appear to fill up the House, an act of Council must be procured, allowing them to be filled up on another day.

If any member of the House dies, the Dean of Guild names a successor, to fill up the House.

And no person can be admitted to vote as a member of the House, in chusing the Council of twenty-four, or be capable of being elected one of that number, or of the twelve named by the Dean of Guild, who has not paid up his poor's rates.

The second Meeting is on the Thursday thereafter, when the Dean of Guild and his Council, with the Merchant Magistrates and Collector, make choice of four of their number, of whom the Dean of Guild for the preceding year is necessarily one, and with four persons elected by the Trades House, together with the present Dean of Guild, constitute the Bretheren of the Dean of Guild's Court, for the ensuing year.

This Court meets every Thursday at 10 o'clock, or oftener, under the forfeiture of a fine.

In absence of the Dean of Guild, another is appointed in his room; And in absence of any of the members, his place is filled up, if a Merchant, by the Dean of Guild with another of the same rank, and if a Tradesman, by the Eldest Gild Brother, or his Council of the Crafts, by another of the Crafts rank.

No Procurator or man of Law is admitted to speak before this Court.

They have power to decern in three days, to elect their own Clerk, yearly, and to decide in all matters between Merchants, under penalty of a fine; also, along with the Master of Work, to judge in all matters of Lying within the burgh; when any work is stopped, a pledge to be lodged, and the matter determined in twenty-four hours; And if any of the parties think themselves aggrieved, they may complain to the Council, on consigning a pledge, double the value of the former.

This Court also to prosecute all unfreemen, until they either leave the Town or enter Burgess.

To oversee the weights and measures, and punish transgressors, and to have power to raise a tax on the Gild Bretheren, for the help of decayed Bretheren and their families, to the extent of one hundred pound, Scots, at once.

Every person who enters Burgess, as a Merchant, is obliged to pay certain dues to the Hospital; and no person can be admitted a member of the Merchants House, without previously being a burgess.

The Dean of Guild Court have also power to elect a Collector or Treasurer, and an Officer for putting their Edicts in execution, who shall be assisted by the Town officers, as often as required.

At this meeting there is elected an Annual Committee, which ought to consist of five persons, of which the Dean of Guild, Provost, and Collector, when acting without a salary, are three, and the other two are chosen by the House; but when the Collector has a salary, he is not to be one of the Committee, but a third person is appointed in his room.

This Committee has of late years been more numerous than was at first appointed.

They are ordered to meet four times a year, viz^t, on the first Tuesday of March, June, September, and December, three to be a quorum, of which the Dean of Guild to be one, and have under their consideration the debts, securities, and other affairs of the House, to make such alterations thereon as seems necessary, and to enter their proceedings in a Book.

The Collector to have his Books posted up, and to produce them at each of these quarterly meetings, that the Balance of Cash in his hands may be lent out, at the pleasure of the Committee.

The proceedings of this Committee to be laid before the General Meetings of the House, which are held on the second Tuesdays of the before mentioned months; and all petitions of persons applying to be enrolled Pensioners upon the House to be examined by this Committee, before they are presented to the House.

At this meeting the Collector, Clerk, and Officer are elected; and the Collector finds security for his intromissions, to such an extent as the House thinks fit.

One of the members of the House, commonly the Collector, is appointed along with the Dean of Guild, to keep the Keys of the Boxes and Presses containing the papers and parchments of the House; a complete Inventory of which is ordered to be kept in a Book, together with an abstract of their contents.

Twelve of the members are also appointed to be Directors of the Towns Hospital for the ensuing year.

And of late years a Committee is appointed to be Directors to examine the Candidates for the Auldhouse Mortification.

The third Meeting is on the second Tuesday of December, at which meeting the Apprentices on Mr. Saunders of Auldhouse Mortification are presented, agreeable to the rules laid down in said Mortification.

The fourth Meeting is on the second Tuesday of March, when the docquet of the Annual Committee on the Books, and the state of the funds of the House are to be taken under consideration.

The fifth and sixth Meetings are on the second Tuesdays of July and September; but no particular business is allotted to these.

All the members are obliged to attend the General Meetings, or to pay five shillings for each absence, unless in case of sickness or being from home, by which is meant their usual place of residence, whether in Town or Country.

ACCOUNT OF THE STOCK AND REVENUE OF THE MERCHANTS HOUSE.

The Stock of the Merchants House has arisen from Entry Money and Gold Book Subscriptions, from Contributions by the Members, and from Donations and Mortifications, and has increased, by little and little, to its present extent.

The Revenue of the House at present arises from the Interest of their Bonded Money, the Rents of their Lands and Houses, and the Feus and Ground Annuals belonging to them, which may be called their fixed Revenue, and from new Mortifica-

tions or Donations, Gold Book Subscriptions, Burgess fines and Matriculation Money, which may be called their casual Revenue.

Part of the money mortified to the House, and from which the fixed Revenue now arises, is left to the free disposal of the Members for the time being, while in others they are tied down and restricted, in the application of the funds, to certain rules and regulations, prescribed by the Donor, and which, therefore, cannot, nor ought not to be dispensed with: of this last kind are the following:—

1st.—GRAHAM'S MORTIFICATION.

John Graham of Dugaldston left one thousand pounds, Scots, the interest thereof to be applied for the use of the poor of the Merchant rank of Glasgow, any relations of his, or his successors of the Merchant Rank, who are indigent and stand in need of supplies, to be preferred.

If only one of his relations apply, they are to get as much of said interest as is equal to any other quarterly account given by the House; But if more apply, the interest is to be divided.

If none of his relations, who are in want, apply for it, then any of the name of Graham, being Merchants within the Burgh, to be preferred.

2d.—GOVAN'S MORTIFICATION.

James Govan, Merchant in Glasgow, by his Will, 28th July, 1709, Mortified one thousand Guineas to the Merchants House, which he afterwards restricted, 7th July, 1710, to Seven thousand five hundred and twenty-five pound, Scots, the interest of which being five hundred and sixty merks, to be divided among Seven poor men of the Merchant Rank, not otherwise supplied by the Merchants House or any other Hospital in this City, and who are Burgesses and Inhabitants of Glasgow, not under forty years of age, and whose parents were born there, at least of the father's side.

The presentation, by his brother, John Govan of Hogganfield, James Peadie and James Hamilton of Aitkenhead, his sons in law, to their eldest sons in majority, and to the nearest heir male of the said John Govan; Failing all whom, to the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow. This Mortification is registered 30th May, 1715.

3d.—PETER'S MORTIFICATION.

Thomas Peter, Merchant and late Dean of Guild, 17th November, 1709, Mortified Three thousand merks to the Merchants House, the interest of which is to be paid, quarterly, to an honest, old, decayed, and poor man of the Merchants rank, being a Burgess and Guild Brother, and Inhabitant of the Burgh. The name of Peter to be preferred, and the presentation, by the Merchants House, after his own decease. This Mortification registered 10th November, 1721.

4th.—AIRD'S MORTIFICATION.

John Aird, late Provost of this City, 7th September, 1723, Mortified a number of Houses in the Bridgegate to the poor of the Merchants House, the free rents whereof, after the decease of his wife (the late Lady Craigends), to belong to them, under the burthen of the payment of one hundred pounds, Scots, yearly, to a poor old man of the Merchants rank, Burgess and Guild Brother, who had been of credit and good Christian fame and reputation; and of one hundred merks, yearly, to each of three poor widows, residents in Glasgow, of honest report, relicts of honest merchants and Guild Bretheren thereof, or to the relicts of any of the ministers of the City, who are in want, not under forty-five years.

The presentation to be by the Magistrates, Ministers, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Conveuer for the time being, together with the late Provost. This Mortification is recorded 14th May, 1730.

The Houses, referred to above, were sold in the year 1753 for £480, Sterling, and the houses had never drawn above £20, clear, annually. In October, 1730, the Lady Craigends was allowed an annuity of Two hundred pounds, Scots, yearly, payable at Martinmas and Whitsunday, together with £14. 8. 4. she had expended in repairs. This annuity she received until her death, 26th February, 1757.

5th.—AULDHOUSE MORTIFICATION.

Robert Saunders of Auldhouse, Printer and Bookseller in Glasgow, 10th November, 1726, Disposed to the Merchants House a Bond of one thousand merks, due by James Dunlop of Househill, to continue at interest until it amounted to Two thousand merks, the interest of which to be given as a prentice fee with a poor Boy, son of a Burgess of the craft rank and freeman of his corporation, to be bound to any lawful calling of the craft rank.

The Blood relations of Robert Saunders, properly qualified, to be preferred; and failing these, the names of Saunders, Corbet, Colquhoun, Wardrop, and Dunlop.

This Deed is registered in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 20th January, 1730.

On the 9th February, 1728, by another Deed, he mortified to the Merchants House the whole of his heritable estate of Auldhouse, for payment of one hundred pounds, Scots, yearly, to a young man, a Student of divinity, for five years; and one hundred merks as a prentice fee to each of five poor boys, sons of honest, poor Burgesses, three of them to be the sons of Merchants, and two of them the sons of Tradesmen, to be bound to any lawful trade or calling within the City of Glasgow, and the apprentice fee payable year and day after their admission.

The blood relations to be preferred; failing whom, the names of Saunders, Corbet, Colquhoun, and Wardrop.

This Deed is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 23^d August, 1731.

On the 1st January, 1729, he mortified to the Merchants House, the whole of his moveable estate, for payment of one hundred merks, as apprentice fee, to each of five poor boys, the one half the sons of Merchants, the other half the sons of Tradesmen,

Burgesses of the City, to be bound to any lawful calling within the City of Glasgow. The apprentice fee payable year and day after their admission. His Blood relations to be preferred; and failing them, the names of Saunders, Corbet, Colquhoun, Wardrop, and Govan.

This Deed is registered in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 1st January, 1730.

The Magistrates of Glasgow, 27th September, 1734, ascertained the whole of this moveable estate to be 10,000 merks, and that the Merchants House was liable to apply the same, as ordered in said Mortification.

The presentation of the whole to Robert Colquhoun, Walter Colquhoun, James Colquhoun, and John Wardrop, his Nephews, and their heirs male, and their Tutors and Curators in minority, in the same order and succession as now set down; and failing them, to the Merchants House.

These having all failed by the death of John Wardrop, in 1772, the Nomination is now vested in the Merchants House.

If there are not a sufficient number of Applicants, either of the Merchant or Trades rank, for the above mentioned apprentices, the number is not allowed to be filled up from the other.

Timely intimation to be given in the Newspapers, of the time of presentation to these apprenticeships, every year, that all concerned may know how to apply.

The Candidates give in their names in October, that the House may have time to enquire into their situation and circumstances.

And the Boys to appear in the House on that day the presentation is to be given, that the House may easier judge of their age, &c., and that none be recorded unless they so appear.

When the apprentice fees become due, the Masters and Apprentices are to be called before the Dean of Guild and Collector, to be by them examined if there be any complaints on either side, and if all parties are in their duty.

6th.—DONALDSON'S MORTIFICATION.

The Members of Donaldson's Club, on the 14th November, 1732, Mortified to the Merchants House £200, Sterling, the interest to be distributed quarterly, to two poor men who had been Members of the Club, if any such remain in want, or to two of the widows of such members, or any two of their children; and failing all these, to any other Merchant, or their widows, whose husbands have been Burgesses and Guild Bretheren of this City, each of them to enjoy £5, Sterling, yearly.

The presentation to be in the Members of the said Club, as long as three of them are in life, and afterwards to the Dean of Guild and Members of the Merchants House, always regarding the friends, widows, and children of the said Club.

7th.—LUKE'S MORTIFICATION.

John Luke of Claythorn, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the poor of the Merchants House 4,000 merks, the interest of which to be paid to a poor, decayed, indigent, honest man of the Merchant rank, Inhabitant and Burgess of Glasgow; the payments to be

made quarterly, and the name of Luke, properly qualified, to have the preference; and failing of such, the Blood relations of the said John Luke.

For fulfilling which conditions the House granted their Bond, 30th May, 1730.

The presentation by Martha Miller, his wife, during her life, and, after her death, by Janet Luke, Lady Dugaldston, and the heirs lawfully procreated of her Body; and failing them, by Agnes Luke, spouse of Mr Joseph Williamson, and her lawful heirs, after her decease; and failing of all these, by the Dean of Guild, Collector, and Members of the Merchants House.

This Deed is recorded 13th May, 1737.

N.B.—The said Martha Miller, 10th October, 1744, petitioned the House that the children of the deceased George Luke, her husband's relation, might have the benefit of 150 merks yearly of the above mortification, until they were educated and some way provided for, in which case, the House was to enjoy the remaining 50 merks during that time; which was agreed to by the House, and ratified by the Magistrates and Town Council.

8th.—MOLL'S MORTIFICATION.

Margaret Ronald, relict of John Moll, Merchant in Glasgow, by her Deed, 7th October, 1740, left to the poor of the Merchants House £80, Sterling, on condition of paying at Candlemas, yearly, Three pound, equally, to two poor, old, decayed women, in Glasgow, such as the Dean of Guild and the House think fit to present.

9th.—SPREULL'S MORTIFICATION.

James Spreull, Merchant in Glasgow, having died intestate, but on his deathbed recommended to his Sisters to give to the Dean of Guild and Merchants House one hundred pounds, to be paid at the decease of the last of them, they, on the 12th December, 1769, agreed to pay the same, on condition of the House agreeing to pay Twenty-five shillings at each of the terms of Candlemas, Whitsunday, Lammas, and Martinmas, in all time coming, to a poor Burgess and Guild Brother, or to a widow, being the daughter of a Merchant and Guild Brother.

The presentation being by them, to any person aforesaid, during their life, whether such person shall be on the Charity of the House or not. And after their decease, to be chosen by the Dean of Guild and Merchants House, their blood relations being always preferred, and afterwards the name of Spreull. Which was agreed to, and recorded by the House of that date.

The three following Mortifications are reckoned in the Books of the House as Annuities, as the money is only sunk in the House, and the interest disposed of by appointment, viz:—

1st.—PATRICK BELL'S MORTIFICATION.

Patrick Bell, Merchant in Glasgow, 4th December, 1641, Mortified to the Merchants Hospital Two thousand merks, to be lent out on good security, or laid upon land, the

interest or rent of which to be distributed, annually, by the Dean of Guild and Collector, with one of his, M^r Bell's, heirs, and one of the Ministers of Glasgow, and four of the Deacons of the Kirk, to be chosen by the Dean of Guild on the first and second Tuesdays of January each year, unto the most indigent within the City, of whatever rank, condition, or sex, so as not to exceed five shillings, Sterling, or under twenty pence, to any of them. The names of the persons who receive to be inserted in a Book, and subscribed yearly by the Dean of Guild, by one of M^r Bell's Heirs, and by one of the Ministers of the Burgh.

2d.—THOMSON'S MORTIFICATION.

Thomas Thomson, Merchant, late Dean of Guild, Mortified to the Merchants House Two thousand merks, 8th September, 1720, and received a Bond granted for the same, 23^d January, 1724, the interest whereof to be paid on the 8th December, yearly, at two o'clock afternoon, in the Laigh Kirk, to the most indigent and deserving poor, of whatever sex, employment, or age, without distinction, by the Dean of Guild, who is, the day before the distribution, to call one or more of the Ministers of Glasgow, and an Elder, or rather Deacon, of every Parish of the same, with one of M^r Thomson's nearest relations in life, who shall together state what each person is to get, not being above a crown, or below twenty pence, to each, and who shall be present next day at the distribution.

A Book to be kept of this Charity, in the same way with the last, having the names of the persons who received it, and subscribed by the Distributors.

3d.—MRS. MARGARET BELL'S MORTIFICATION.

Margaret Bell, daughter of Patrick Bell, of Cowcadens, Merchant in Glasgow, by her Will, 16th May, 1730, Mortified 4,000 merks, in certain Bonds, to the Merchants House, the interest of which to be paid yearly, at Martinmas, to the widows of two Ministers, residing in Glasgow, who shall be in want; or to the widows of Merchants in the City, who shall be found in want, who have been in creditable circumstances, to be paid by Patrick Bell and his heirs male, after majority, at the sight of the Dean of Guild, a minister, and a Magistrate of the Burgh; the nearest of her kin to be preferred.

On the 23^d April, 1754, Patrick Bell represented that the funds from which this sum was to be paid had become deficient, but that he was willing to make it up to the sum of Two thousand merks, payable at Martimmas, 1754; which was agreed to and settled accordingly.

Besides these, John Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, 26th March, 1697, Mortified certain subjects to the College, which were realized, 19th February, 1724, at Two thousand pounds, Scots, the interest whereof to be applied for the use and behoof, maintenance and entertainment of a Student of Philosophy, to be presented by the Merchants House; for the benefit of his nearest kindred and relations in the first place; failing whom, to any other; but the name of Craig to be preferred.

This Mortification is registered 22^d January, 1723.

When any of the Bursaries in the gift of the House become vacant, the members of the House are to have previous Notice of the Day upon which the new appointment is to take place, and also of the Candidates applying for the vacancy.

These limited Mortifications amount to £188 per annum, which sum is to be paid out of the first of the Revenue of the House; the remainder or any part of it may be given either in fixed pensions, paid quarterly, or in temporary supplies, to indigent persons, by order of the House, or by order of the Dean of Guild.

The highest sum given to any one person, before the year 1770, was one hundred pounds, Scots, which sum was given for many years to each of five old men, whose number, about the year 1723, was augmented to seven; the other pensions given did not exceed forty shillings per annum each; but since that time considerably larger sums have been given.

In the Books they are kept under the name of Pensioners on the old and new foundations; what the old foundation was, cannot at present be said, for want of the old Books; but by the new foundation is meant an act of the House, in 1754, by which they appropriated £60 per annum as follows:—To three poor men of the Merchant rank, who had been men of good repute for morals, of credit and business in the City, and Merchants and Guild Bretheren, not under fifty years of age, in reduced circumstances, and not otherwise provided for, one hundred pound, Scots, each. To two poor old men, qualified as above, sixty pound, to be continued during their being in low circumstances, and their residing in the City. To three women, widows of Merchants, qualified as before, and not under fifty years of age, unless burthened with a family of children, in which case the age to be dispensed with, one hundred pound, Scots, each.

But these, and all the charities in the disposal of the House, limited Mortifications only excepted, are ordered to be bestowed on such poor as have been entered Members, or their indigent Widows or Children, preferable to all other claimers whatever. And that no Petition or recommendation be received, by any Member of the House, from any person who is not matriculated. On payment of the pensions, printed receipts are ordered to be signed by each pensioner, and delivered to the Collector for their pensions, to be produced by him, as vouchers for his disbursements.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE FUNDS OF THE MERCHANTS HOUSE, CANDELMAS. 1786.

CERTAIN REVENUE

Rents of Lands, £136. 16. 8., deducting public burthens,			
£2. 8. 11½.,	£134	7	8½
Rents of Shops and Cellars,	29	5	0
Ground annuals,	3	3	1½
Interest of Bonded money, £11,410, at 5 per cent.,	570	10	0
Do. of money now lodged in the Bank, £150.	7	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£744	15	9

Certain Revenue carried forward, £744 15 9½

CERTAIN EXPENDITURE.

1. Limited Mortifications—

Govans, 7 men, at 80 merks each, . . .	£31	2	2¾
Grahams, 1 do., at £100 Scots, . . .	8	6	8
Peters, 1 do. do., . . .	8	6	8
Airds, 1 do. do., . . .	8	6	8
Do., 3 women, at 100 merks, . . .	16	13	4
Auldhouse, 1 student, . . .	8	6	8
Do., 11 apprentices, at 100 merks, . . .	61	2	2¾
Donaldsons, 2 men or women, £5, . . .	10	0	0
Lukes, 1 man, . . .	11	2	2¾
Molls, 2 women, . . .	3	0	0
Spreulls, 1 man or woman, . . .	5	0	0
Patrick Bells, . . .	5	11	1½
Thomas Thomsons, . . .	5	11	1½
Margaret Bells, . . .	5	11	1½
2. Enrolled pensioners, 15 men, 40 women, . . .	382	16	0
3. Towns Hospital, . . .	110	0	0
4. Salaries—Collector, . . . £25 0 0			
Clerk, . . . 15 0 0			
Officer, . . . 11 13 4			
	51	13	4

732 9 4

Balance of Certain Revenue, £12 6 5½

UNCERTAIN REVENUE.

Mortifications and Donations, average for 20 years, £62 14 0	
Matriculations, . . . 29 5 0	
Gold Book Subscriptions, . . . 28 5 0	
Burgess and freedom fines, . . . 68 3 0	
Council fines, . . . 21 0 0	

209 7 0

£221 13 5½

UNCERTAIN EXPENDITURE.

Precepts by order of the House, average for 20 years, £34 19 0	
Do. by order of the Dean of Guild, . . . 12 6 0	
Contingent Charges, . . . 40 8 0	

87 13 0

Balance in favour of the House, £134 0 5½

9th May, 1786.

The following Report from the Committee upon the Business of the Marine Society was produced, read, and unanimously approved of:—

Report of the Sub-Committee named by the Annual Committee of the Merchants House to attend to the Bill proposed to be brought into Parliament relative to the Glasgow Marine Society.

The Directors of the Marine Society, having found the funds of the Society inadequate to the purposes of the association, owing partly, as was supposed, to the lowness of the Rate or Contribution, heretofore levied on Seamen's Wages, and partly to the want of proper powers to enforce the payment of that Contribution, the object of said Bill was to improve their funds, by increasing the rate on wages, and to enforce the regular payment of it, and at the same time to establish some regulations for the better management of the affairs of the Society.

A draught of the proposed Bill, prepared under the direction of the Society, having been laid before a Meeting of this Committee, and of Committees of the Town Council and Chamber of Commerce; and it having appeared at this Meeting that the Merchants, Shipowners, and others most interested in the Business, were not altogether agreed in opinion, as to several particulars in the proposed Bill, a General Meeting of the trade of Glasgow and the towns on the River Clyde was called, at which these particulars were reasoned upon and settled, particularly that in place of the old poundage on wages a certain rate or duty, per mensem, should be levied on the hands, or Seamen and apprentices, employed in the Shipping of the ports of Glasgow, Greenock, Port-Glasgow, Crawford's Dyke, and their dependencies; and it was recommended to those concerned, to get the proposed Bill prepared or altered accordingly, which has been done, and the amended draught of the Bill has been again submitted to the consideration of a joint Meeting of the several Committees before mentioned, and after the alterations and corrections suggested by them, appear to this Committee to be now adjusted to the views of the trade and others convened.

Some of the Members of the Committee had doubts of the propriety of the tax or principle of the Bill, and objected to the tax being made heavier than before; but it was generally agreed, that it was proper to enforce the payment of the old tax or an equivalent for it; and accordingly the rate now proposed is nine pence, per month, for each Master, six pence, per month, for each first Mate and first Carpenter, and three pence, per month, for every other person employed on board the ships belonging to the Ports, to be paid by the Masters or Owners, with power to retain the same from the wages of such as receive wages, which is supposed to be equivalent, or nearly equivalent, to the old tax, and more easily collected, the addition of two pence, per mensem, for the first year, provided for in the Bill, being also approved of, for defraying expence.

23^d October, 1786.

The Dean of Guild informed the House that he had called this

Meeting at desire of the Magistrates and Council, to take under their consideration a Proposal, made by some landed proprietors at Edinburgh, and transmitted to the Counties of Scotland, for their concurrence in an application to Parliament, for an alteration of that part of the Corn Law, which regulates the opening and shutting of the Ports in each County, according to the market prices within the same, respectively; and to make the opening and shutting of all the Ports in Scotland depend, in future, on the market prices of Edinburgh alone, which appeared to the Magistrates and Council to be very unfavorable to the Manufactures and Commerce of this Country, as appeared from an Extract from the Council books, now laid before the Meeting, which follows:—

At Glasgow, the twentieth day of October, 1786 years.

Which day the Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, being in Council assembled, John Campbell, Esq^r of Clathic, a Member of Council, laid before the Meeting the resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures in Glasgow, relative to the importation of Meal and Grain in Scotland, whereof the tenor follows:—

“ At a Meeting of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures of this City, held this day, for the purpose of taking into consideration a plan, proposed by a Meeting of the landed Proprietors at Edinburgh, for altering the present Law respecting the Importation of Meal and Grain into Scotland. Archibald Henderson, Esq^r, in the Chair. Having considered the proposed alterations with the attention which a matter of such importance required, they came to the following resolutions:—First, That in order to give stability to Manufactures in any State or Government, it is essentially necessary, that the great body of the People, who are employed in the laborious part of the business, should be regularly and plentifully supplied with Grain and Meal, at moderate rates. Secondly, That at a time when all the Sovereigns of Europe are anxiously bent upon bringing to perfection, the various Manufactures established throughout their dominions, and when Commercial Treaties are forming, founded upon reciprocal impost duties, that State alone can expect a preference to an introduction of its Manufactories into other States, where the skill and industry of its Manufacturers is aided by cheapness of labour, the certain consequence of plentiful supplies of provisions at reasonable rates. Thirdly, That although, in order to secure upon a permanent foundation, a regular supply of vegetable food for the laborious poor, the legislature of Great Britain has not thought fit to adopt the system of a free importation, at all times, of Grain and Meal, subject to moderate duties, and of putting an end at the same time to the bounty granted on the exportation of Corn, yet it has been generally attentive to the Manufacturing interest, by providing by Laws temporary expedients, which have in

some degree had the effect of remedying the inconveniences that would otherways have been felt by the laborious poor. Fourth, That with respect to Scotland, the Law now in force for the importation of Grain and Meal, so far as it regards the mode of opening and shutting the ports, has been beneficial to the great body of the People. Fifth, That any alteration of that Law, by which the prices of grain and meal might be steadily raised, higher than they have hitherto been, would have a most pernicious effect upon the manufactures of Scotland in general, but more especially upon those of this western district, the population of which is so great as to require, even in plentiful seasons, constant importations of Grain and Meal from other quarters. Sixth, That owing to the circumstance just mentioned, the prices of Grain and Meal at Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock, Port-Glasgow, and the numerous adjacent towns and villages, when no importation from Ireland or foreign parts is allowed by law, may be fairly set down at an average of fully Ten per cent. higher than those of the County of Edinburgh. Seventh, That consequently the proposed plan now under consideration, of altering the present law, by making the prices current at Edinburgh for Grain and Meal, the rule for shutting and opening all the ports of Scotland, however plausible it may be made to appear by tables of averages of the different counties, would have a direct tendency to raise the price of those necessaries of life over all the Kingdom, would be exceedingly prejudicial to the Manufactures of Glasgow, Paisley, and the adjacent Towns and Villages, and would, of consequence, compel the Manufacturers to emigrate to other Countries, where their lives would not be embittered by penury and want. Eighth, That under these impressions the Directors of this Chamber are determined to oppose to the utmost, any Bill which may be brought into Parliament, that may have either a direct or concealed tendency to raise the price of Grain and Meal upon the laborious poor; and they call upon the Manufacturing and Commercial Interests of Scotland at large, to express their sentiments upon this important subject, in an unequivocal manner. Which Resolutions are dated the eighteenth day of October current; and the same being read to and considered by the Magistrates and Council now convened, they unanimously approved, and hereby approve thereof, and appoint copies of the said Resolutions, with this their approbation thereof, to be transmitted to the Merchants and Trades Houses of Glasgow, to be considered by them. And also copies thereof to be sent to all the Royal Burrows in Scotland for the like purpose; also to the Preses of the Committee of the Convention of the Royal Burrows; and authorise the Lord Provost, in name of the Magistrates and Council, to write to the Lord Advocate, their Member in Parliament, to oppose any alteration that may be proposed in Parliament of the present Corn Law, tending to raise or increase the price of Grain. And appoint the Magistrates, as a Committee, to meet with any Committees to be named by the Merchants and Trades Houses, and with them to form general resolutions against any steps that may be taken, tending to raise the price of Meal and Grain.

The House having taken this matter under their serious consideration, thank the Magistrates and Council for their attention to the interests of their Country, and

Resolved Unanimously—

That this House will concur with the Magistrates and Council, and all others concerned, in opposing, to the utmost of their power, the proposed alterations of the Corn Laws, and all others which have any tendency, directly or indirectly, to raise the price of Corn and Meal, as having the most pernicious effects on Manufactures and Commerce.

That the Dean of Guild, Mr. M^cGregor, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Graham, be, and they hereby are, named a Committee—the Dean of Guild, Convener, and three a quorum—to take more particularly under consideration the present state of the Corn Laws, and the proposed alterations, And to Report to this House such Resolutions as they think the House should make public on so important a business.

30th October, 1786.

The Committee appointed by Minute of the twenty-third current, for the purpose of considering the proposed alterations in the Corn Laws, gave in the following Report and Resolutions, which being read, the House unanimously approved thereof, and ordered the same to be inserted in the Edinburgh and Glasgow Newspapers, viz^t:—

The Committee having considered the present state of the Corn Laws, with the alterations proposed by some landed proprietors at Edinburgh, submit to the House the following resolutions on this important business:—

1. That the Prosperity and Power of this Kingdom depend in great measure on its Trade and Manufactures, and that the growth and increase of these have been the chief source of its opulence, and of the rise of the value of the Lands.
2. That the Manufacturers of Scotland find difficulty in maintaining a Competition with the neighbouring Countries, from the high price of provisions, and from the necessity of an importation of grain, even in plentiful seasons.
3. That these unfavourable circumstances have been much increased, and our improvement retarded, by the operation of Corn Laws, which not only restrain importation, but promote, by bounties, the exportation of grain from a Country which cannot supply the wants of its own inhabitants, thus forcing the price of corn and meal much above their natural rate.
4. That the alterations at present proposed in the Corn Laws will tend to increase this grievance, as they are evidently calculated to raise the price of grain over all Scot-

land, but more especially in this part of it, by confining the proof to the prices at Edinburgh one of the richest Counties in Scotland, and to make an unjust distinction between this country, and our fellow-subjects in England, where the importation is regulated by the prices of grain in those counties into which it is necessary to be imported, while the poorest of our counties are proposed to be regulated by the price of the most fertile.

5. That until that happy period shall arrive, when the landed as well as commercial men of the Kingdom shall see their true interest in permitting the *free importation and exportation of corn, at all times*, This House will use their utmost endeavours to maintain and support the present Corn Law, so far as regards the opening and shutting of the Ports of Scotland by the prices in each County, and will contend for it as they would do for their dearest and most important interests, confiding in the wisdom and justice of Parliament, that they shall be treated on an equal footing with his Majesty's subjects in England.

6. That therefore this House think it incumbent on them, and on all who wish well to the prosperity of this Country, to testify their disapprobation of the proposed alterations, and their resolution and fixed purpose to use every lawful means in their power, to oppose and defeat these alterations, and all others of the same destructive tendency, trusting in the liberality of a great majority of the landed Gentlemen of the present age, that they will see their own true and permanent interest in protecting the infant and growing Manufactures of their country.

20th March, 1787.

The Meeting thereafter resumed the consideration of an application to the House for their assistance in establishing and supporting an Infirmary in this City, and they unanimously empowered the Dean of Guild to subscribe £400, as an aid from this House, for building and supporting the same.

11th September, 1787.

The House having taken into their serious consideration the late disturbances in this City, occasioned by the lawless proceedings of certain wicked and disorderly persons, which ended in open sedition, and occasioned the bloodshed which ensued,

Resolved unanimously—

1st. That it is the duty of every good Citizen, not only to aid and support the Magistracy in keeping the peace of the City, and protecting the persons and property of peaceable and industrious Citizens, but also

to use every means in their power to discover and bring to justice the fomentors, aiders, and abettors of such lawless and wicked seditions.

2nd. That this House do express their utmost abhorrence at the late riotous proceedings in this City, and testify their entire approbation in the spirited exertions of the Magistrates, with their firm resolutions to support to the utmost their future endeavours in preserving the peace of the City, and in bringing to Justice the Ringleaders or others concerned in the late Riots.

3rd. That this House will give, and hereby offer, a reward of One Hundred Pounds, Sterling, to any person or persons, not being themselves guilty, who shall discover the person or persons who struck the Lord Provost, or any of the other Magistrates, on Monday, the Third day of September current, so as those guilty of such wicked and seditious conduct may be apprehended and brought to Justice; to be paid, on conviction, by the Collector of this House.

10th June, 1788.

The House having resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the proposed improvement of the Set of the Burgh, given in at the Meeting of the eleventh of March last,

Resolved, that the Report of said Committee be, and hereby is, approved of.

Report of the Joint Meeting of the Sub-committees from the Town Council, the Merchants House, and the Trades House, on the proposed Improvement on the Set of the Burgh.

These Sub-committees, after several Meetings and conferences on the points before them, have made up outlines of a new or improved Set of the Burgh, herewith transmitted and referred to for the consideration of the several bodies whom they represent.

It is proper, however, to observe that several particulars of these outlines were not unanimously agreed to.

In particular, Mess^{rs} John Campbell, Junior, from the Council, the Dean of Guild, Walter Stirling, Robert Findlay, and Archibald Grahame, from the Merchants House, desire it to be marked, That, while they approve of the outlines in general, in so far as

the new regulations go to correct abuses, and remove inconveniences, in the present Set of the Burgh, agreed on as such by all parties, without encroaching on the present rights either of the Merchant rank or Guildry, or of the Trades rank or Crafts; and while they do not desire that the Merchant rank should obtain any greater share or influence in the government and administration of the affairs of the Burgh than they have hitherto possessed, they cannot agree, and do not either think it just or reasonable, that the undoubted rights of that rank should be in any degree impaired, or that the Trades rank should obtain a greater share or influence in said government and administration than they have hitherto possessed; and therefore they dissented, and think it incumbent on them to mark their dissent from the two following particulars introduced into the outlines by a majority, viz.:—First, The proposal to add a second Trades Bailie, without increasing the Merchant Bailies in the same proportion, or at least adding a third Merchant Bailie to balance the new Trades Bailie, so as to maintain the same, or nearly the same, proportions of the two Ranks, as at present in the Magistracy. Secondly, and which is considered of still more importance, The proposal to give the Trades rank the proportion of fifteen Tradesmen to twenty Merchants, in the Meeting which is to fill up the Council, in place of only three Tradesmen to nine Merchants, which are the proportions in the Meeting which has hitherto filled it up; and this dissent is founded, not only in the proposed violation of the established rights of the Merchant rank, but also, on the fullest conviction, that the share and influence which that rank have hitherto held in the government and administration of the affairs of the Burgh has proved highly beneficial to the Community: From all which they contend that the proportions of the two ranks should be maintained the same, or nearly the same, as heretofore, both in the Magistracy and in the Meeting intended to fill up the Council.

Some members also thought that no fines should be imposed for refusing to accept any office; and some, that the two days proposed to intervene betwixt the nomination of the delegates for filling up the Council, and their meeting for that purpose, much too short for the delegates to make up their mind on a business of such importance. But the majority of the Meeting were induced to propose making it as short as possible, from the representation of the gentlemen from the Trades House of the danger to be apprehended from the idleness, dissipation, and other inconveniences among the Trades rank, for which the business would give occasion, and longer time an opportunity.

The Committee from the Trades House, viz.,—The Deacon Conveener, M^r Stephen Maxwell, M^r Basil Ronald, M^r James Cooper, and M^r James Lang, also gave in the following observations, and depart from the opinion of the Majority of the Committee, which they desired might be marked:—

The Trades House Committee is of opinion that the members of the Merchants and Trades Councillors, and of the Merchants and Trades electors, should be equal, and that the Provost should be eligible to both ranks. This appears a fundamental part of the Reform, and cannot be dispensed with. The propriety of this is strongly supported in every point of view in which the matter can be taken up. The Town naturally

divides into two great bodies, Merchants and Tradesmen. The Tradesmen are by far the most numerous, and, taken in their individual and collective capacity, contribute considerably more towards the public funds than the Merchants. Second, From the late rapid progress of Trade and Manufactures, and from present appearances, there is good reason to conclude that the Trades rank will, in process of time, become, in most respects, the most important body in the community. The Merchants themselves, by turning their attention to manufactures, and consequently ranking under the class of Tradesman, will contribute considerably to this end. Third, If the real interests of the community is what the parties wish by the present alterations alone to promote, to equalize the numbers is unquestionably the best means to attain the end, as the two great bodies will serve as mutual checks against one another, and have a tendency to prevent any improprieties which might take place under the scheme suggested in the outlines. Fourth, It is obvious that if the plan in the outlines was adopted, the Merchants House would in all cases, independent of Council and Trades House, manage and govern the whole election of the new Councillors. The transition, therefore, from the Council to this new-created power, would in no shape add to the liberties of the place, or emancipate the inhabitants from the system complained of. Fifth, Opposed to these suggestions, the Merchant Committee may, perhaps, state that they have the majority contended for at present, and therefore it falls to be continued.

In answer to this, it is only necessary to mention that the present negotiation is to reform and correct what was formerly wrong, and to desire a Set most calculated to promote the public good. It does not appear that the end can be gained by the mode proposed. To equalize the numbers seems the likeliest to succeed; and in place of depriving the Council of every kind of importance and controul in the management, it is submitted that the electors, upon the enlarged plan now proposed, should send to the Council, from both houses, at least double the number of persons to be chosen into the Council, and from these, the Council should elect those who are to serve in the office. In this way the three bodies would operate as mutual checks to one another, and from this the most salutary effects might be expected.

As it is proposed to apply for an Act of Parliament, it is submitted if it would not be advisable to have the taxes on the necessities of life abolished, and in place of them to have taxes substituted on luxuries, such as spirituous liquors, wines, tobacco, &c., care being always taken that the revenues of the town should not, by the alteration, be diminished.

Upon the whole, should the Council and Merchants House be disposed to reject the amendments above suggested, this Committee is hopeful that the same will be adopted at a general meeting of the burgesses, which, if necessity requires, will fall to be called, or a private poll of their sentiments taken.

30th October, 1788.

James Hill is continued Collector, and George Crawford, Clerk to the House, for the ensuing year; and the House appoint James Hill,

Jun^r., to assist his Father as Collector, and to appear for him at the Meetings of the House.

10th December, 1788.

Resolved unanimously—

That the Thanks of this House be given to the Right Honourable William Pitt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for his upright and able conduct as a Minister, and unremitting attention to support the Dignity, improve the Finances, and promote the Commercial interests of Great Britain, and for the manly firmness with which he maintained the Right and Duty of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons of Great Britain, as representing the Estates of this Realm, to provide means for supplying the defect of the personal exercise of the Royal Authority, at present unhappily suspended by the afflicting indisposition of His Majesty, thereby asserting one of the most important rights of the People, now explicitly ascertained and confirmed by both Houses of Parliament.

9th June, 1789.

The Committee upon Sir John Rigg Miller's proposal relative to Weights and Measures gave in the following Report :—

Report of the Committee of the Merchants House on Sir John Rigg Miller's letter relative to a proposal of an uniformity of Weights and Measures.

The Committee are happy to find that an object of so much importance, which has been so long wished for, and for the accomplishment of which sundry attempts have been made, is again to be taken into the consideration of Parliament; And though they are aware that the subject is attended with some difficulties, yet they trust the perseverance of the gentlemen, now employed in this salutary measure, will not only overcome these, but frustrate the attempts of any persons who, from interested motives, may wish it to remain in its present obscurity and confusion. They are therefore of opinion that these Gentlemen who shall establish this uniformity will deserve the applause of the whole nation, and that Sir John Rigg Miller, who has moved the consideration of it, should receive the thanks of this House.

Though your Committee feel themselves inadequate to the task of pointing out the most proper method which should be adopted, yet they think it their duty, in

compliance with the desire of Sir John Miller, to point out such hints as have occurred to them in the general view of this business, without entering into the minutiae or detail of the operations by which these may be put in practice.

In the consideration of this subject, three things appear to the Committee to be requisite :

1. To procure one universal standard, from which both Weights and Measures should be raised, and by which, at any future period, they might be corrected and adjusted or regenerated, whatever accidents should happen.

2. To adapt the Weights and Measures to be raised from this universal standard as near as possible to some of the Weights and Measures at present in use, and at the same time to be raised from that standard without fractional parts, as thereby it will be rendered not only easier in practice, but less liable to inaccuracy in the execution ; and

3. To construct Tables, showing the proportions between the Weights and Measures fixed on as the General Standards and those now in use.

With regard to the First, the necessity of such an universal Standard has occurred to every person who has thought much on the subject, and premiums have been offered by different Societies for it. Those who have turned their attention to this subject have in general supposed that such standard could only arise from a pendulum swinging certain vibrations in a given time. But though in theory this seems to promise much, yet in practice it has been found liable to such inaccuracies, from the difficulty of ascertaining the precise length of the pendulum, as to discourage those who have attempted it. Yet, as a very ingenious method has been lately pointed out by Mr Whitehurst, of taking the difference of two pendulums swinging to 42 and 84 times in a minute, seems to remove most of the difficulties formerly experienced in ascertaining the length of the single pendulum, the Committee are hopeful it may be rendered the means of procuring this standard as accurately as could be wished for.

As to the Second, If the difference of length of the two pendulums proposed by Mr Whitehurst is adopted, it will give an interval of nearly $59\frac{1}{2}$ of our present inches ; and therefore dividing that interval into five equal parts would leave the foot very little different from what it is at present, as the Standard for all measures of length. And if the foot so obtained be divided into ten equal parts, a cube of one of those parts would hold nearly one ounce of the present avoirdupois weight of rain, or distilled water at 60 degrees of heat, thus furnishing in the same manner Standards for all measures, both of weight and capacity, little different from the present. If this division of the foot into 10 instead of 12 inches were adopted, it would not only render all arithmetical calculations more simple and expeditious, and less liable to error, but would have the effect of preserving a connection betwixt the measure of length, weight, and capacity, as every cubic inch of capacity would be equal to one ounce of weight of water.

The last thing necessary is to construct Tables, showing the proportions between the new established Weights and Measures and those formerly in use, which, though it may be represented as very difficult by those whose interest it is to keep it in darkness, yet in the opinion of this Committee would, at least in Scotland, be more a

work of form than difficulty, and is in part already executed by a very ingenious performance of Lord Swinton's, which they have no doubt Sir John Miller is already acquainted with.

The Committee therefore express their warmest wishes that this great national undertaking may be attended with the success it deserves, and they hope that all Bodies of Men will join in promoting a scheme, which promises great facility to the Commercial intercourse of the different parts of the Kingdom.

The Committee also beg leave to hint, that if the Multiples or divisions of all the Standards to be fixed were made to go in a decimal progression, the ease with which all Commercial transactions respecting them would be immense, and whether it would not be for the interest of the Country, that all Commodities which can be sold by weight, particularly Grain, should not be sold in that manner, rather than by measure. —(Sic sub') Alex. Low, Gilb' Hamilton, Alex. Brown, John Laurie."

Which Report being read, was unanimously approved of, and an extract of the same ordered to be transmitted to the Lord Provost.

8th September, 1789.

An Extract of a Minute of a Meeting of the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow, relative to Bucket money, of the following tenor, was laid before the House by the Dean of Guild:—

At Glasgow, the twenty-third day of July, Seventeen hundred and eighty-nine years.

The Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, being in Council assembled, having considered that the expense of maintaining and supporting the Fire Engines of the City amounts to a considerable sum yearly, and that the money paid from the Burgess fines to the Merchants and Trades Houses, in name of Bucket money, was in former times applied to the purpose of procuring and keeping in repair buckets for carrying water to extinguish fires in the City; And that these buckets are now gone into disuse, from the use of Fire Engines, which are now applied to that purpose, are of opinion that the two Houses ought to appropriate as much of the said bucket money, for keeping the Fire Engines in repair, as will be necessary for that expense. They therefore appoint Mess^{rs} John Laurie and William Craig, Councillors, as a Committee of Council, to meet with the said Houses, or such Committees of them as may be appointed for that purpose, in order to settle this matter, and to report the result of their application to the Magistrates and Council; and also appoint an Extract of this Act of Council to be transmitted to the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener of the City, to be laid by them before their respective houses, for their consideration.

Which Minute having been taken into consideration, Mess^{rs} Walter Stirling and Walter Neilson are appointed as a Committee from the

House to meet with the Committee from the Town Council, and to report to the House the result of their deliberations.

10th May, 1790.

The Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting a copy of the Bill, lately brought into the House of Commons, for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, with sundry other papers on the subject; which being considered by the Meeting,

Resolved, That the right of the People of Scotland to participation of equal Laws with our fellow-subjects of England is not to be doubted.

Resolved, That the separate regulation of the importation of oatmeal into Scotland, introduced into the Act of the thirteenth of His present Majesty, whereby the import price of that article, in this country, was raised considerably above that of England, was an unjustifiable infringement of our said undoubted right, and which we are entitled to insist to have corrected.

Resolved, That to introduce a Bill into Parliament for the avowed purpose of subjecting all Britain to the same law, and on that pretext depriving us of the benefits derived from the regulation of importation by the prices in each county separately, while it is proposed to continue the former unaccountable discrimination betwixt the two Kingdoms, is not only in itself a contradiction, but irreconcilable to the meaning and spirit of the Union, and must, if passed into a law, prove equally oppressive in its operation and dangerous as a precedent.

Resolved, That this House will concur with the Magistrates and Council, the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, and others who attend to this important business, in every legal and constitutional means in their power, for preventing the continuation of a discrimination so partial, oppressive, and dangerous; and trust in the wisdom and justice of Parliament that, as we bear equal burden, we shall enjoy equal privileges, with His Majesty's other subjects, uninfluenced by

the interested, though mistaken views of any rank or description of men in the Country, however otherwise entitled to respect and attention.

Ordered that these Resolutions, signed by the Dean of Guild, be published in the Glasgow and Edinburgh Newspapers, and in the London Chronicle, and one or two more London papers.

A Petition to the Honourable the House of Commons, on the above business, is laid before the House, approved of, signed by the Dean of Guild, and ordered to be sealed and forwarded to M^r M^cDowall, to be presented.

13th October, 1790.

After voting of Leets, in usual manner, the House made choice of Gilbert Hamilton and two other Members, as the Leet to be presented to the Town Council, out of which Leet one of them is to be elected Dean of Guild, for the year ensuing, and until the next ordinary time of election, after Michaelmas next, and ordain said Leet to be presented by M^r James M^cGrigor, and that he (and seventeen other Members, whose names are enumerated) do immediately repair to the Town Council, and there vote in ballance of the Deacons of Crafts, in the election of the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener, according to custom.

13th October, in the afternoon.

The before-named Gilbert Hamilton, being returned duly elected Dean of Guild, for the year ensuing, and until the next ordinary time of election, after Michaelmas next, and he, with the matriculated members of the Merchants House, being convened, they proceeded to the choice and election of thirty-six of their number, to be the Dean of Guild's Council for the year ensuing, who, with the Dean of Guild and Collector, and the Merchant Magistrates, are to represent the Community of the Merchants House, from this time until the ordinary day of Election, after Michaelmas

next. And according to the Acts and Regulations of the House, in that behalf made and provided, the Dean of Guild made choice of twelve, as part of the thirty-six, out of the recorded Matriculated Members; and then the remainder of the Matriculated Members being elected, as directed by the said Regulations, twenty-four persons were by the Meeting elected, to complete the Dean of Guild's Council for the year ensuing.

28th January, 1791.

The House, having taken into their consideration the Bill for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, presently pending in Parliament, Resolved—

That being Members of the same Community, governed by the same Legislature, and having an indisputable right to participate in all the advantages of our happy Constitution, equally with our fellow-subjects to the South of the Tweed, any distinction in Laws to the prejudice of Scotland, more especially in such as relate to the Bread of the People, is an intolerable grievance.

That these distinctions, in the Bill depending in Parliament for regulating the Importation and Exportation of Corn, are so alarming, that it would be the most abject submission in the People of Scotland to allow it to pass into a Law in its present form, without making every Constitutional exertion in their power to prevent it.

Resolved, That the principal of these distinctions are the following:—

1st. That Oatmeal can be imported into England at the low duty, whenever the price of Oats is at or above Sixteen Shillings, per quarter, which, at the produce of twenty-two pounds Oatmeal, per bushel of Oats, as by the estimate in the Bill itself, corresponds to the price of twelve shillings and eightpence $\frac{1}{11}$, per boll of Meal, weighing one Hundred and forty pounds, Avoirdupoise; whereas Oatmeal cannot be imported at the same duty into Scotland, till the price thereof is at or above sixteen shillings and one penny $\frac{1}{3}$, per quarter of Oats.

2nd. That Oatmeal can be at all times imported into England at the high duty of three shillings per cwt., whatever the price of Oats or Oatmeal may be; whereas it cannot be imported into Scotland, even at the high duties, when the price thereof is under sixteen shillings, per boll, unless for Warehousing; and, what is still more irregular, it cannot be taken from the Warehouses for Home Consumption, unless the price of Oats is at or above eighteen shillings, per quarter.

3rd. That England is divided into contiguous districts of moderate extent, whereas Scotland is divided into extensive districts, the component parts of some of which are unsuitable to each other; particularly, that the Corn Counties of Ayr and Wigton make part of the Western district, the other Counties whereof are among the least productive of Corn in Scotland, by which the average price of Importation into that district will be kept lower than it would otherwise be, and the ports will be kept shut, when they ought to be open, to the manifest hurt of this populous and manufacturing part of the Country.

Resolved, That this House will unite with the Magistrates and Town Council of this City, the Chamber of Commerce, and other public Bodies, in endeavouring to prevent this Bill from being passed into a Law, in its present form, by a firm and steady perseverance in opposing it, through all its stages; and in doing so we trust to the generous assistance of our English Brethren, who, we are persuaded, will not allow the rights and privileges of any Class of their fellow-subjects to be invaded.

Resolved, That this House will contribute towards defraying the expense which may attend such opposition, and order the Resolutions to be published in the Newspapers.

[By the Act 13 Geo. 3^d, Cap. 43, 1775, which narrates that "Whereas the Importation and Exportation of Corn and Grain, by a permanent Law, under such general Rules and Regulations as might render, for the time to come, temporary Laws unnecessary, would afford encouragement to the Farmer, be the means of increasing the growth of that necessary commodity, and of affording a cheaper and more constant

supply to the poor, and preventing abuse in that article of trade," It is enacted, that from and after the 1st January, 1774, whenever the price, at the Port or Place where the same shall be imported into this Kingdom, shall appear, according to the methods directed by the several Acts of Parliament for ascertaining the Rates and prices of Corn and Grain imported, to be at or above the sums following, viz., per quarter:—

Middling British Wheat,	48/.
Ditto Rye, Pease, and Beans,	32/.
Ditto Barley, Bear, or Bigg,	24/.
Ditto Oats,	16/.

all Customs duties then payable thereon shall cease during the continuance of such prices in the respective Counties, &c., and in lieu thereof a duty, per quarter, of 6^d on Wheat; 3^d upon Rye, Pease, and Beans; and 2^d upon Barley, Bear or Bigg, and Oats.

The above duties were, however, repealed after 10th May, 1787; and it was enacted that whenever the price, per quarter, at the port of Importation, should be under the following prices:—

Barley,	24/, a duty of 22/, per quarter.
Beans,	32/, „ 22/ „
Bear or Bigg,	24/, „ 22/ „
Oats,	16/, „ 6/7 „
Pease,	32/, „ 18/4 „
Rye,	32/, „ 22/ „
Wheat,	48/, „ 24/3 „

but when the prices were at or above these respective rates, the duties should fall to 2^d per quarter on Barley, Bear or Bigg, and Oats; to 3^d per quarter on Beans and Pease; and to 6^d per quarter on Wheat.]

18th February, 1791.

The House having this day met, for the purpose of nominating three Directors of M^r Walter Stirling's Library, on the part of this House, for the year ensuing, appoint the Dean of Guild and two other members to be the three Directors on the part of this House, for the year ensuing, in terms of M^r Stirling's Wills.

8th March, 1791.

The Committee on the Constitution of the House gave in the following report:—

The Committee appointed by the Merchants House to consider the Constitution and Regulations of the House, agreeable to the recommendations given them the 14th

December last, Report, That at the Meeting of the 9th March, 1790, there was laid before the House a corrected copy of the printed Abstract of the Constitution, which had been compared with the Books that had been recovered since the same had been printed, in which everything that appeared to the Committee, from the revision of these Books, to be necessary to be altered or added had been inserted, and that the same had been lodged with the Dean of Guild until the next Quarterly Meeting, for the inspection of the Members.

That the same has lain for twelve months without any remarks having been made, nor does any occur to your Committee which they think necessary.

It, however, having been suggested by some very respectable Members of the House, that it would be proper to make an alteration in the method of filling up the Dean of Guild's Council, so that the same person should not be continued from year to year, but that there should be a rotation among the Members, Your Committee have taken this into their consideration, and submit to the House the following alteration, which appears to them calculated to answer the end proposed, without altering the established Constitution more than necessary, or throwing it into confusion :—

That four Members of the Council should, at the election of the new Council in October annually, be disqualified from being Members for that year, and that until the whole Members who at present constitute the said Council are disqualified, the same should be done, either by lot or by seniority, as the House may think proper, and that afterwards the four eldest should go out annually, in rotation; and if more than four Members have been elected at the same time, four of them should be disqualified by lot, when they come to be the eldest Members; but from this should be excepted the late Dean of Guild, who ought to be continued either as being a necessary Member of the Guild Court, or as being the person who presides in the House, in case of the absence of the Dean of Guild, and that the election of the Council should in every other respect go on in the same manner as already prescribed by the regulations of the House, except that every member becoming insolvent should thereby, ipso facto, be disqualified from being one of the Council.

Your Committee also, in obedience to the instructions of the 15th October, 1789, to consider the propriety of raising the Matriculation fine, are of opinion that from the alterations of the circumstances of the City, since the former fine for Matriculation was fixed, it would be proper to raise the same in future to Ten Guineas; And if these alterations are approved by the House, they should be laid before the Magistrates and Town Council, in order to receive their approbation and ratification, agreeable to the mode prescribed by the Letter of Guildry, so as they may form part of the legal Constitution of the House; after which the report already referred to, with these additions, should be printed for the benefit of the Members.

And the House having deliberated on the above Report, by a great majority approve of that part thereof, relative to the raising of the Matriculation fine to Ten Guineas, for which purpose they desire the

same to be laid before the Magistrates and Town Council, in order to obtain their approbation and ratification, agreeable to the Letter of Guildry, and refer the consideration of the other parts of the Report to the next Quarterly Meeting.

21st March, 1791.

Anent the Corn Bill.

The House having the business under consideration, agree to Petition both Houses of Parliament to be heard by Counsel against the Bill being passed into a Law in its present form, and empower the Dean of Guild to sign the same, in name and by appointment of this House. The House also gave power to him to concur with the other Bodies in opposition to the Bill, with this recommendation, to endeavour to get the Bill made the same for Scotland as for England, if the proposed compromise be not agreed to.

14th June, 1791.

The Dean of Guild reported to the Meeting that, agreeable to the last Minute of the House, he had accompanied the Lord Provost to London, and had endeavoured to get the regulations of the Corn Bill made as favourable to this Country as possible. That after many negotiations for that purpose the Bill had passed into a Law ; and he was happy to inform them that it had been altered in many respects agreeable to their wishes, particularly that the Districts were now settled agreeable to the representations made from this part of the Country, And that we had got clear of the invidious distinctions intended between England and us, the two Countries being now put on the same footing.

That in this business we were very much indebted to Mr. M^cDowall of Garthland, who, to a thorough knowledge of the subject, joined the most unwearied attention to the wishes of his Constituents.

The meeting unanimously Resolved that the thanks of this House be given to Mr. M^cDowall, for the great pains and attention he has bestowed on this subject, and that the Dean of Guild be desired to transmit the same.

They also resolved that the thanks of the House be given to the Dean of Guild, for the attention he has paid to this important business.

13th October, 1791.

James Hill, junior, Writer, is appointed Collector to the House for the year ensuing, and to find security.

George Crawford continued Clerk for the ensuing year.

Before proceeding to the election of Collector and Clerk, it was stated by the Dean of Guild, at the suggestion of the Annual Committee, that it had been always understood that the Collector and Clerk held their Offices from year to year, and no longer, unless re-elected, at the usual time, annually; which being also the unanimous opinion of the House, and also acknowledged by the Collector and Clerk, the same is ordered to be entered in the Minutes of this Meeting, to prevent any ambiguity in future.

13th March, 1792.

Thereafter, the Dean of Guild presented to the Meeting a Scheme for regulating the Police of the City; which being read, first generally, and then clause by clause, the House appoint nine of their number as a Committee, any five of whom to be a quorum, for considering this business, and to report to the House betwixt and this day fortnight; and the House recommend to this Committee to adopt the mode of electing the Commissioners proposed by the Scheme.

The Lord Provost then presented to the House the Report of Mr. Ainslie, the Surveyor, relative to an intended new line of Road to Greenock, which he requested the House to take into consideration; and

having done so, the House approve of the line pointed out by Mr. Ainslie, and empower the Dean of Guild to petition Parliament in support of it.

11th December, 1792.

The Dean of Guild produced and read to the House the following Sederunt of the Directors of Stirling's Library:—

The Meeting, having resumed consideration of the proposal to raise the Subscription from three to five guineas, in respect of the great addition of Books made, and in the course of being made, to the Library, Resolve to propose to the different Societies having rights in this Institution, and hereby do propose, That the Directors shall be empowered to raise the Subscription accordingly, at any time they think proper, on giving three Months previous notice in the Glasgow Newspapers. And, in order to accommodate occasional residents in town, they Resolve further to propose, and hereby do propose, that the Directors shall be further empowered to admit Subscribers, for One Guinea, to the privilege of the Library, for one year from the date of their Subscription, under the same Conditions and Regulations with other Subscribers.

And the House having considered the foresaid Sederunt, approve of the proposal to raise the subscription when the Directors think it proper, on the notice therein mentioned, but do not approve of admitting Strangers to the privileges of the Library, on an Annual Subscription.

The House appoint Mr. Archibald Grahame as Manager of the Glasgow Infirmary on the part of this House, and enact that the Manager be in future appointed at this Quarterly Meeting.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that a number of observations had been made to him on the impropriety of the conduct of Mr. George Crawford, Clerk to the House, on his connecting himself with, and acting as Secretary to one of those Societies which have given occasion to the present alarms with respect to the peace of the Country, and laid before the House a letter from him, with the opinion of the Annual Committee thereon; which being considered by the Meeting, they Resolve that Mr. Crawford's services shall be dispensed with, and that Mr. James Hill, the Collector of the House, be requested,

and is hereby elected, to act as interim Clerk, till next election, Mr. Crawford being in the meantime to enjoy the Salary and Emoluments of the Office.

The Dean of Guild then called the attention of the Meeting to the alarms which at present prevail with respect to the peace of the Country. The Meeting having then taken into their most serious consideration the present alarming situation of the Kingdom, Resolved, That we consider it as our duty, and the duty of every loyal Subject and good Citizen, sensible of the blessings we and our Fathers have enjoyed under the present happy Constitution, to declare to the World our firm attachment to that most excellent Constitution, and our determination to maintain and support it, more especially as we are convinced that if any abuses have crept into it, the Constitution contains in itself the means of rectifying them.

The following declaration was then read:—

We, the Merchants, Traders, and Manufacturers, and other respectable Citizens of Glasgow, whose names are hereunto subscribed, having seen, with the deepest concern, that attempts have been made to circulate opinions subversive of the dearest interests of the Nation, to infuse into the minds of the people fears and jealousies, and to create discontent and dissatisfaction among the unwary, feel it our duty to declare to the World our sincere and firm attachment to our most excellent Constitution, and a Government by King, Lords, and Commons, and our determined resolution, by every means in our power, to support and maintain it.

That we will give our active assistance to the authority of the lawful Magistrate, and the maintenance of the Established Government, and that we will exert our best endeavours to impress on the minds of those with whom we may have influence a reverence for, and submission to the Laws of their Country.

Such being our sentiments, We will cheerfully co-operate with other loyal Subjects in strengthening the hands of Government, by detecting and bringing to punishment those whose measures tend to disturb the peace of the Country, and to subvert the Constitution; and we trust with confidence that, by these exertions, under God, Britons will long continue distinguished among the Nations as a free, loyal, and happy people.

The same having been read a second time, Resolved unanimously, That this declaration be approved of and subscribed by us present, and that those who agree in the principles here stated, be invited to set their

names to it; and for this purpose it will lye at the Tontine Coffee-room: until Monday, the 24th instant, for signatures.

1st March, 1793.

The Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting the following Minute of the Town Council:—

At Glasgow, the 27th February, 1793.

The Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow being in Council assembled, there was laid before the Magistrates and Council an Extract of the Minutes of a Committee of the Patrons of Hutchesons' Hospital, dated the 26th day of February current, stating that the subscription by the proprietors of houses and shops in Salt-market-street did not promise to bring any considerable sum, towards defraying the expense of erecting a Bridge across Clyde, opposite to the foot of the said street, which was mentioned in former Acts of Council, but that the Committee was still of opinion that the erecting of that Bridge would be of great advantage to the Public, as well as to the neighbouring Proprietors, and they therefore proposed to the Magistrates and Town Council, that application should be made to Parliament, without delay, for an Act to enable the Magistrates and Town Council to build the said Bridge, to open avenues to it, to subject it to the same pontages which are leviable at the Bridges between Glasgow and Gorbals, and across Clyde at the foot of Jamaica street, and to empower the Magistrates and Council to borrow a sum not exceeding three thousand five hundred Pounds, Sterling, to be added to the Money already subscribed, or that may be subscribed, for completing the said Bridge, for the security of which, the pontages should be continued on the three Bridges, till the principal sum and interest of the foresaid three thousand five hundred Pounds, Sterling, together with the present debt, should be paid, and no longer; which proposal being considered by the Magistrates and Council, they approve thereof, and agree to apply to Parliament, during the present Session, for an Act to the foresaid purpose. The Magistrates and Council are also of opinion that it would be proper and expedient to include in the Act of Parliament before enumerated, a power to them to purchase from James Wilson and John Clelland their tack of the ground of Meadowflat, that the said ground may be sold for building ground; and a power to open a street from the North end of Buchanan street, to run in a straight line with the said street till it join the turnpike road which leads from Glasgow to Garscube bridge; a power to open a street from, or near, S^t Nicholas Hospital, in a straight line westward, till it cross the line of John street, and from thence southward, in a straight line with John street, till it joins that street; a power to extend Brunswick street in a straight line southwards, till it join Trongate street, and in a straight line northwards, till it join Georges street; a power to take down the Tron Steeple, and the tenements belonging to Mess^{rs} Bell and Boyd, and William Aitken, adjoining to the said Steeple, and to include the ground upon which these buildings stand in the Trongate street; and a power to purchase those parts of the

tenement on the west side of High street, adjoining to the Tolbooth, which do not already belong to the City, in order thereby to make an addition to the said Tolbooth, and to the Council and Clerks' Chambers of the City, with power to purchase, by the verdict of a Jury, such Lands, Tenements, and hereditaments, as may be necessary for the foresaid purposes. And whereas the Tron Church was lately burned down by accidental fire, the Magistrates and Council also resolve to insert in the said intended Act of Parliament, a power to rebuild the said Church, either upon its former site, or upon any other ground within the City, which may be found to be a better situation for a Church to the Parish to which the said Tron Church was appropriated. The Magistrates and Council also resolve to insert in the said Act, clauses for regulating the weight and measure of Coals, sold within the City, and clauses for regulating the mode of transporting Wood and Timber upon carriages through the City, which is necessary to complete the effects of an Act, which the Proprietors of the Great Canal obtained, for regulating the carriage of Wood and Timber to and from the Basin of the Canal, but it is not intended to insert in the Act any other Clauses relative to the Police of the City. Extracts of this Act of Council are appointed to be transmitted to the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener, who are requested to lay the same before their respective Houses, and to report their opinion relative thereto, to the Magistrates and Council, without loss of time.

The Meeting having deliberated on the minute, appoint five of the members—any three a quorum, the Lord Provost, Convener—a Committee to bring before the House, at next meeting, a report on the expediency of the Bridge at the foot of the Saltmarket, at which time the meeting will take under consideration the whole matter in the foregoing minute, but the Meeting, in the meantime, approve of the presenting the Petition to the House of Commons, in regard the time for receiving Petitions for Private Bills will be elapsed before next meeting.

12th March, 1793.

The Committee appointed in last minutes, on the subject of the Bridge at the foot of the Saltmarket, verbally reported that it appeared that the Bridge would be a public benefit, and that £1000, Sterling, might be borrowed on the credit of the tolls to be levied on the said Bridge, and the other two bridges, and there being a prospect that what further sum which may be required to complete it will be raised

by voluntary contribution. The Meeting approve of this report, and of the other matters mentioned in the minute of the Town Council, and appoint an extract hereof to be sent to the Town Council.

3^d May, 1793.

The Dean of Guild informed the Meeting that Mr. M^c Dowall of Garthland had transmitted to him the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the present state of Commercial Credit, with the plan, founded on the Report, which he read over to the meeting.

The Meeting having considered this subject, were of opinion that it would afford more effectual relief to the present state of Commercial Credit, if the payment of the Exchequer Bills could be prolonged to six, twelve, or fifteen months; which the Dean of Guild is requested to communicate to Mr. M^cDowall as the opinion of the House. The Dean of Guild and Mr. Grahame are appointed to attend a meeting of the Gentlemen of the County, which is to be held this day, with a view to restore Commercial Credit.

27th May, 1793.

A letter having been read from Mr. Dunlop, present Dean of Guild now in London, stating that the Commissioners appointed for issuing the Exchequer Bills had the most earnest inclination to make the circulation of these Bills a general benefit, and that there was the greatest reason to believe that they would be willing to accommodate the City of Glasgow and its neighbourhood with a loan of these bills to a very considerable extent, provided the Citizens and Inhabitants of the neighbouring Country would come forward and produce proper security, in order to distribute them among the Manufacturers, who have not a sufficiency of Goods to deposit in terms of the Act.

The House having taken the same into their most serious considera-

tion, were unanimously of opinion that it would be of the highest utility, and of the most essential benefit to the welfare and prosperity of this country, if a measure of this kind could be adopted. Many difficulties occur in the execution of it, which appear to them to render it impracticable, as the Act now stands, of requiring a principal in the Bond, which no private person could be, nor could the Community, from many circumstances, come forward with the funds of the City, even though they were adequate to the same, which at present they are not; But as they understand that a Bill is proposed to be brought into Parliament, explanatory of the foresaid Act, they are humbly of opinion that as this part of the Country lies at such a distance from the Commissioners, it is impossible for them to receive the necessary information with regard to the Securities offered in the situation and circumstances of the Applicants: if a clause was introduced, empowering the Commissioners to set apart such sum as might seem proper to them for the accommodation of the West of Scotland, and liberty given them to invest the same, either in some of their own Number, or in Trustees or Commissioners to be appointed by them, who from their situation might be capable of judging of their circumstances, in order to be distributed by them in such sums as they should judge proper, not under £500, either on the deposit of goods or undoubted personal security, it would have the most happy effects upon the Manufacturers of the Country, and would give Bread to many thousands of industrious persons, who are now in the greatest want of the means of procuring subsistence.

They therefore desire the Lord Provost to transmit a copy of this minute to Mr. Dunlop, and to request him to apply in the proper manner, and to use every interest he can with His Majesty's Ministers, with the Honourable Commissioners, and the Members of Parliament, to have such a clause inserted, as being of the utmost importance to the prosperity of this part of the Country; and they trust that the wisdom of Parliament will see the propriety and necessity of

such an arrangement, in order to fit the beneficent purposes of the Act to the circumstances of this part of the Kingdom, situated at such a distance from the Metropolis.

11th June, 1793.

The Meeting appoint Mr. Findlay, Mr. Houstoun Rae, Mr. Laurie, Mr. Henry Riddell, Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Oswald, a Committee to consider of the propriety of establishing a Chartered Bank in Glasgow, and to give in a report thereon. Mr. Hendry Riddell is appointed Convener, and any three to be a quorum.

10th October, 1793.

John Maxwell of Dargavel was chosen Clerk for the ensuing year.

24 December, 1793.

The application of the Managers of Sunday Schools (praying for an aid for the support of the said Schools) having been taken under consideration, the House agreed to give to the said Managers the amount of two Apprentice fees on the Auldhouse Mortification, not applied this year; but declaring that this donation should not form a precedent for the House on similar occasions.

11th March, 1794.

The Annual Committee, considering that it has been the practice, when a person has once got temporary supply, to continue that supply yearly, in consequence of which they become in a manner permanent Pensioners on the House, often without any title, that inconvenience has arisen from this mode of disposing of the funds of the House, they therefore recommend to the House to give temporary supply to no new applicant.

Which Report being considered, the Meeting approve of the same.

27th January, 1795.

The Dean of Guild stated that the Meeting was called in conse-

quence of an application from the Lord Provost, to take under consideration a letter to His Lordship from Mr. Secretary Dundas, in relation to the most effectual and speedy measures being adopted for procuring an additional number of men for His Majesty's Naval service.

The Lord Provost then read Mr. Dundas's letter, and stated that he had transmitted copies thereof to the Magistrates of Greenock and Port-Glasgow, and had received Reports on the subject from these Magistrates; which reports he laid upon the table. The Dean of Guild then desired the sentiments of the House; upon which Mr. Alexander Oswald moved, That it be recommended to the Lord Provost to acquaint Mr. Dundas, That it is the opinion of the House that no measure for manning the Navy, however unexceptional, can be effectual without a fair and open declaration from Government of their willingness to treat with the present Rulers of France, for bringing about a speedy and reasonable peace. Which motion, being seconded, was put to the vote, and was negatived by a majority of sixteen to four.

It was moved by Mr. Ritchie, That this House does approve of the most speedy and effectual measures being adopted for procuring an additional number of men for His Majesty's Naval service, and will warmly support all constitutional measures for that purpose. Which motion being seconded by the Lord Provost, was carried unanimously.

The Dean of Guild and other five members, or any four of them, were named as a Committee, the Dean of Guild Convener, for considering the letter from Mr. Dundas, and suggesting such measures as may occur to them in relation to the subject thereof.

30th January, 1795.

The Committee appointed, on the 27th instant, to take into consideration the Letter from the Right Honourable Henry Dundas to the Lord Provost, presented the following Report:—

The Committee, understanding that it is the means of procuring an immediate supply of men for His Majesty's Naval Service on which His Majesty's Ministers desire to receive information, are of opinion—

1st. That the most speedy and effectual means of procuring such immediate supply of men would be an increase of bounties to be paid by Government.

2nd. That to replace in part the Seamen thereby induced to leave the service of the Merchants and enter into that of His Majesty, it may be expedient so far to relax the Navigation Laws, as to require no more than the Master and three-fifths of the Crew, or some such proportion, of British subjects to navigate British Ships according to Law, allowing the rest of the Crew to be Foreign Seamen, of whom a great number may at present be supposed willing to enter into the service of Britain.

3rd. That it would be a great inducement to Seamen to enter into His Majesty's service if their engagements to serve in the Navy were limited to a certain number of years, or during the War, giving them the prospect of being discharged within some reasonable time, after the expiration of the term of their engagement, or of the next arrival in Britain of the Ship they belong to, on previous notice to the Captain of the Ship that they desire so to be discharged.

Which Report being read, Mr. James Ritchie moved that it be approved of by the House; and his motion being seconded, Mr. Robert Findlay moved, as an amendment, that the first head of the Report be left out; which being seconded, the question was put and negatived by a majority of eighteen to nine. Mr. Ritchie's motion for the Report being approved of, was then put and carried in the affirmative.

It was moved and carried unanimously that the Report as approved of be extracted by the Clerk, and delivered to the Lord Provost, with the request of the House that his Lordship will transmit the same to the Right Hon^{ble} Henry Dundas.

10th March, 1795.

The following Report of the Annual Committee was laid before the Meeting:—

Inter alia—The Committee are of opinion that the List of the Matriculated Members should be brought down to the present time, and that a Committee should be appointed to make up the List, and deliver it to Mr. Sanderson, to be engrossed in the book; And recommend to the House to cause print a new edition of the Constitution.

Which Report being considered, the Meeting approve of the same.

The Dean of Guild, Archibald Grahame, and Gilbert Hamilton, were appointed a Committee to cause print a new edition of the Constitution.

8th September, 1795.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House, that in consequence of the appointment of the House, at their meeting held on the 8th of March, 1791, an extract of the Minutes of that Meeting, relative to the raising the Matriculation fees, had been laid before the Magistrates and Town Council, and that the Magistrates and Town Council, by an Act of Council dated the 9th March, 1791, had approved of the resolution of the House; of which Act the following is a copy:—

At Glasgow, the 9th day of March, 1791.

The Magistrates and Town Council of the City of Glasgow being in Council assembled, the Dean of Guild produced an extract of the Minutes of a Meeting of the Merchants House, which was held on the 8th day of March current, 1791, in which it was, *inter alia*, mentioned that a Committee of the said House, in obedience to an instruction dated the 15th of October, 1789, desiring them to consider the propriety of raising the Matriculation fee, were of opinion that, from the alteration of circumstances of the City since the former fine for Matriculation was fixed, it would be proper to raise the same to Ten Guineas; and that if that alteration was approved of by the House, it should be laid before the Magistrates and Town Council, in order to receive their approbation and ratification, agreeable to the mode pointed out in the Letter of Guildry and resolutions of the House, so as it might form part of the legal Constitution of the House, after which the said report should be printed for the benefit of the Members, which report bears to have been signed by Gilbert Hamilton, Dean of Guild; And that the House having deliberated on the said report, by a great majority did approve of that part thereof relative to raising the Matriculation fine to Ten Guineas, for which purpose they desired the same to be laid before the Magistrates and Town Council, in order to obtain their approbation and ratification, agreeable to the Letter of Guildry; which extract having been considered, and it having been represented by the Dean of Guild that, in terms of the Letter of Guildry, it was necessary that an equal number of Merchants and Trades Councillors should vote with regard to the ratification of the said resolution of the Merchants House; And there being then present eleven Merchant Councillors and eight Trades Councillors, three Councillors of the Merchant rank did retire, and declined giving their votes. And it having been moved and seconded that the said resolution of the Merchants House should be approved of, the previous question was afterwards moved, that the consideration of this business

should be delayed till a future meeting of Council; and the said previous question was voted, when it was carried to proceed in the consideration of the business, with only one dissenting vote; After which it was moved and seconded that the question should be put, Approve or not Approve of the said resolution of the Merchant House, by which time a Trades Councillor had come in, taken his place, and craved his vote; and one of the Merchant Councillors returned to his place and craved his vote, that the number of Merchants and Trades Councillors might again be equal upon this question, in terms of the Letter of Guildry, and the Number of Councillors then being nine of the Merchant and nine of the Trades rank, the main question was put, and it was carried by a majority of fifteen to three votes to approve of the resolution, whereupon the Magistrates and Town Council did Approve of, Ratify, and Confirm the resolution of the Merchants House before-mentioned, by which the Matriculation fines were agreed to be raised to Ten Guineas for each Member Matriculating with the said House. And did authorize and empower the Dean of Guild and his Council of the Merchant House, from and after the date of their said Resolution, to levy and uplift the sum of Ten Guineas from each Matriculating Member, in terms of their former Acts and resolutions, and of the Letter of Guildry of the City, and in the manner therein specified.

26th November, 1795.

The Dean of Guild stated that this meeting was held in consequence of a letter, addressed to him, signed by twelve members of this House, desiring him to call a meeting to consider the propriety of petitioning the Honourable House of Commons in favour of the Bills for protecting His Majesty's person and preventing seditious meetings. Mr. Gilbert Hamilton moved that the House should petition the Honourable House of Commons in favour of these Bills, and being seconded by Mr. Cunningham Corbet, the motion was carried, two members dissenting.

The following Petition being presented, was read over and approved of by the House, two members dissenting:—

Unto the Honourable The Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled. The humble Petition of the Dean of Guild and the Merchants House of Glasgow,

Sheweth,—That your Petitioners have observed with the deepest concern the great pains which have been taken to disseminate doctrines through the Country, tending to infuse discontent, and stir up sedition, in the minds of the people, which have at length operated so strongly as to have inflamed a lawless and unprincipled mob to the commission of the most daring acts of violence. Your Petitioners are humbly of opinion that the two bills now under the consideration of Parliament, for the better

security of His Majesty's person and Government, and for more effectually preventing the seditious meetings and assemblies, are well calculated to answer the ends proposed, and appear, under the present circumstances, to be indispensably necessary for the peace and happiness of these Kingdoms.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that this Honourable House will steadily follow out such measures as are not only calculated to secure the Life of our most Gracious Sovereign, from the attacks of the wicked and misguided, but to protect the Constitution from the insidious attacks of seditious and discontented persons, and thereby enable us to transmit the invaluable blessings we at present enjoy to our posterity.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

Resolved, that the Dean of Guild be desired to sign the Petition in name of the House, and transmit the same to the Right Honourable Henry Dundas.

12th June, 1796.

The House, upon the Petition of Archibald M^cVicar, Clockmaker in Glasgow, appointed Messrs. David Dale, William Wardlaw, and George M^cIntosh, to judge, along with the Provost, Dean of Guild, and three Craftsmen to be named by the Trades House, whether an Invention by the said Archibald M^cVicar of a Machine for working finger flowers and spots, in the loom, be worthy of the annual premium appropriated by the late Mr. James Coulter for the benefit of the Manufactures and Trades of Glasgow, in terms of his Settlement; extracts from which are recorded in the Council Books the 25th day of September, 1788.

13th September, 1796.

The Lord Provost stated to the House that William M^cDowall, Esq., Member of Parliament for this district, had informed him that it was intended to bring in a bill into Parliament the ensuing Session, for selling Corn by weight, and that Mr. M^cDowall was desirous that a Committee should be appointed by this House, who, in conjunction with Committees from the Town Council and Chamber of Commerce, might consider this subject, and peruse the papers he had to lay before them,

and correspond with him in relation thereto. The House appointed the Dean of Guild, and Messrs. James Ritchie and Robert Findlay, a Committee for the above purpose.

24th February, 1797.

The resolutions, adopted yesterday at the General Meeting of the Inhabitants of this City, for making an offer to Government of raising two Battalions, each consisting of 750 men, to assist in quelling any Invasion by the Enemy on the Coasts of this Kingdom, having been read, deliberated upon, and ordered to be entered on the Records of the House, Resolved unanimously, That the Members of this House do approve of these Resolutions, and will give every aid in their power to forward and promote the Levies for these Battalions. That Messrs. Archibald Grahame, Archibald Smith, and John Gordon, be appointed the three Members from this House of the Committee for conducting the business, in conformity to the second resolution of the said General Meeting.

The following is a copy of the Resolutions of the Inhabitants of Glasgow, referred to in the foregoing Minute:—

Town Hall, Glasgow, 23^d February, 1797.

At a very numerous and respectable Meeting of the Inhabitants of Glasgow, called by the Lord Provost, by public Advertisement, to consider of the most proper mode of Raising an Armed force in the City and Suburbs, to assist in repelling the Enemy, in the event of Invasion upon the Eastern or Western Coasts of Scotland, it was Resolved—

1st. That an offer shall be made to Government, to use every endeavour for raising two Battalions in the City of Glasgow and Suburbs, each Battalion to consist of 750 men.

2nd. The Officers to be recommended, through the Lord Lieutenant of the County, by a Committee consisting of

The Lord Provost, Magistrates, Dean of Guild, and Convener;

Three Gentlemen to be named by this Meeting, &

Three by the Merchants House, and

Three by the Trades House;

And the Meeting recommend to the said Committee to take such measures as to them shall seem proper for carrying the Plan into effect.

3^d. That it is understood there shall be two days' pay in the Week allowed to the Officers and Men by Government, the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates at the rate of one shilling per day, and the Officers according to their rank. The Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates to receive their two days' pay weekly; but when on actual service, the whole Corps to be paid, subsisted, and provided for as regular troops. The pay of the Officers, when not on actual service, shall be thrown into one general fund for defraying the necessary charges of the Corps, and any surplus that may arise shall be applied for the benefit of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, and their families, according to Rules to be laid down.

4th. That as the chief intention of this Armament is for the protection of the Western Coast of Scotland, their services shall extend over the whole of that Coast, in case of strong appearances of Invasion. But that in the event of actual Invasion on the East Coast, they may be called to protect the Counties of Stirling, the three Lothians, and Berwick; and if desired by the Lord Provost and Magistrates, they shall march to any other part in Scotland.

5th. The Corps to be furnished with Clothing, Arms, and Accoutrements, by Government.

6th. That the Services of the Corps shall terminate, and their Arms and Accoutrements be returned to Government, on a Peace taking place, or sooner, if Government shall judge proper.

Which Resolutions being unanimously approved of, the Meeting made choice of Messrs. John Brown, junior, Cunningham Corbet, and John Alston, as the Members of the Committee to be named by them.

13th June, 1797.

The Committee appointed at last Meeting for distributing a printed List of the Matriculated Members of this House, with a preamble calculated to induce Gentlemen to matriculate, reported that they had distributed among the Members a Letter, of which the following is a copy:—

Glasgow, 27th March, 1797.

Sir,—In conformity to the orders of the Council of the Merchants House at last Meeting, we have now to annex you a List of all the Matriculated Members, whether Foreign or Home Traders.

Should there be any of your respectable acquaintances that are Merchant Burgesses of the City, and who, from forgetfulness or inattention, are not among the number, we request you to mention it to them, and to put down their names at the foot of the List, or otherwise, if desirous of becoming Members, that the Matriculation and Gold Books may in due time be sent them.

The entry money for Matriculation is Ten Guineas, a less sum perhaps, in pro-

portion to the present value of Money and the Funds of the House, than it was fifty years ago; and the subscription to the Gold Book is optional.

The Revenue of the House is above £900 per Annum; and there are many that now find a comfortable resource from its Charity, who at one period of their lives little expected that either themselves or their children would ever stand in need of such assistance. There are many more, who now unavailingly regret that, by withholding a few guineas in better days, themselves and their Families are for ever cut off from this resource. But independent of all personal considerations from the uncertainty of future events, it may be presumed that it will appear a laudable object of ambition to become Members of so respectable a Society, whose sole aim is to smooth the declining years of those who once walked in the same circle, or to assist their destitute families. You will have the goodness to send a note of the names of such persons as wish to matriculate to the Dean of Guild, on or before the 1st of June next.—We are, &c. (Signed) Robert Findlay, Gibb. Hamilton, Ja^s. Hopkirk.

17th May, 1798.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called them together to consider, as expressed in the Tickets, the propriety of a Petition to the House of Commons for a Tax upon Property, and that if the propriety of such a Petition was agreed to, he had the scroll of one in his hands, which had been approved of by the Town Council and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, and he believed would be approved of by the Trades House, which he would read for their consideration. The propriety of such a Petition having been allowed without a dissenting voice, he accordingly read the scroll above referred to; which being unanimously approved of, he is accordingly hereby empowered to concur with the Town Council, Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, and Trades House, or either of them, in subscribing said Petition on the part of this House, and to affix the Common Seal of the House thereto.

Copy of said Petition follows:—

Unto the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled. The Petition of the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Glasgow, Of the Dean of Guild and his Council of the Merchants House, Of the Deacon Convener, and Members of the Trades House, and of the Chairman and Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures, all of said City,

Humbly Sheweth,—That your Petitioners have seen with pleasure the spirit of all Ranks of people in these Kingdoms rising in defence of the Country against the designs of an inveterate enemy, who has threatened the invasion and the destruction of its Religion, its Liberty and Laws.

That this spirit, manifested by the numerous Armed Associations now forming in all parts of the Kingdom, and by the voluntary contribution of Individuals in aid to Government, while it furnishes the surest proof of attachment to our happy Constitution, affords the best grounded hope of frustrating the boasted threats of an insolent foe, and of restoring to this Country the blessings of Peace.

That as, during the continuation of this Contest, a great and extraordinary expense must be incurred, to which, they are apprehensive, neither the existing taxes nor the voluntary contributions will be adequate, they are of opinion that, in the present state of the public funds, it would be desirable that as great a part of the supplies as possible should be raised within the year, without a Loan, and that a small Tax upon every kind of Property or Stock would be the best measure that could be resorted to, in order to make the burden fall equally upon all descriptions of People.

That though inconveniencies, and even difficulties to Individuals may occur in the execution of this Plan, yet when the Petitioners consider that the very existence of the Country, and of all that is held valuable in Society, depends on the issue of the Contest, they trust that the same spirit which has hitherto supported the British name, and raised these Kingdoms so high in the scale of the Nations of Europe, will still manifest itself in surmounting these hardships, and will prove effectual, under the blessing of God, for maintaining and defending them from all the effects of the preparations now making against them.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will take this matter into its consideration, and adopt such measures as to your wisdom may seem most expedient. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever Pray, &c.

11th September, 1798.

The Dean of Guild stated that Miss Christian Dunlop, late a Pensioner on the funds of the House, had a few days previous to her death, which happened lately, made a donation to the funds of the House of Thirty Pounds, Sterling, which sum she had delivered to Mr. George Campbell, Sheriff Substitute of Bute, for behoof of the House, but that Mr. Campbell, entertaining some doubts of the legality of the transaction, and having received information that Miss Dunlop's relations had signified some intention of reducing the same, declined paying the

money to the Collector, unless the House agreed to indemnify him for so doing.

The House resolved that upon receiving payment of the above sum from Mr. Campbell they would indemnify him at all hands, and authorize the Dean of Guild and Collector to sign a Receipt to him in these terms.

The Dean of Guild and two other Members, any two being a quorum, were appointed a Committee to meet and confer with a Committee of the Trades House on the subject of augmenting the Burgess fines, and to report to this House.

11th October, 1798.

The Dean of Guild and two other Members appointed a Committee to purchase the Land Tax of the part of the Lands of Craigs, belonging to the House, in terms of the late Act of Parliament.

26th April, 1799.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting is called in consequence of a Petition, signed by a number of respectable Merchants and Manufacturers, praying that the House would take under consideration a Bill, presently depending in Parliament, for the purpose of regulating the Labour, and rate of Wages, of the Colliers in Scotland, and adopt such measures as the House should judge most expedient, for giving the Public an opportunity of weighing maturely the important consequences of such Bill, and for preventing it from being carried into a Law. Resolved that this House should petition the Honourable House of Commons, praying that the said Bill should not pass. The following Petition being presented, was read over and approved of by the House:—

To the Honourable The Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled. The Humble Petition of the Dean of Guild and Merchants House of the City of Glasgow,

Sheweth,—That your Petitioners observe a Bill brought into this Honourable House, for regulating the labour and wages of Colliers, Coal-bearers, and others employed about Coal works in Scotland.

That the prosperity of all the Manufactures established in the City of Glasgow, and the district of Country connected with it, and the very existence of many of the most valuable and important branches of their Manufactures, depend on a regular and plentiful supply of Coal. That your Petitioners are seriously apprehensive that the restrictions and regulations proposed by said Bill, being in several respects different from those established respecting other Labourers, may, if passed into a Law, induce many bred Colliers to betake themselves to other employments, deter others from engaging in or about Coal works, produce discontents, and occasion stagnations in the business, with consequences ruinous to those engaged in the Coal trade, and many important branches of Manufacture, and highly distressing to all other Manufacturers, and to the Country at large.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly Pray your Honourable House that the said Bill may not pass into a Law, &c.

19th November, 1799.

The Dean of Guild represented to the House that he had called the Meeting, at the request of the Lord Provost and Magistrates, to take into consideration the steps taken by the Magistrates and Council, for procuring a supply of Grain and other provisions for the Inhabitants, in this time of threatened scarcity, and the propriety of joining the other public bodies and individuals in a Subscription for that salutary purpose. And having read a copy of the Minutes of Council on that business, they approve of the mode proposed for carrying the same into effect; And authorize the Dean of Guild to subscribe Five hundred Pounds, Sterling, in name of the House, in order to make good any eventual loss that may be sustained in carrying the plan into effect, and appoint the Dean of Guild to act with the Committee for managing the business.

The Dean of Guild also represented to the House that Petitions from a great number of respectable Inhabitants of this City had been

presented to the Lord Provost and Magistrates, praying that the Magistrates and Council, with the approbation and concurrence of the Merchants and Trades House, will take the necessary steps for obtaining an Act of Parliament for regulating the Police of the City, and for lighting, paving, and watching the Streets, and for other necessary purposes mentioned in the Petitions. The House highly approve of the measure, and appoint the Dean of Guild, Archibald Grahame, Henry Glassford, and John Alston, as a Committee of this House, to confer with the other Committees from the Council and Trades House, on such measures as may be necessary to carry the same into effect, and appoint the said Committee to report progress in said business, from time to time.

25th March, 1800.

The Dean of Guild and his Council of the Merchants House, having considered the report of their Committee, and the printed Heads of the Police Bill, prepared by the joint Committees, which have been for some time in the hands of the Members of the House; And having also heard and considered the printed Observations mentioned in the Report, and the 76th, 77th, and 80th clauses or sections of the Police Bill, printed in 1792, Remit the whole matter to the same Committee, with instructions to concur with the Committee from the Town Council and Trades House, in making such corrections and amendments on the printed Heads of the present Police Bill as shall appear proper. And the House, with a view to obtain unanimity to the measure, have now adopted the following Resolutions:—

1st.—That if those who are properly empowered by the persons in opposition to the present Police Bill, shall, on or before Tuesday next, come forward with a specific Resolution to the Lord Provost, agreeing to withdraw all opposition thereto, provided the Superintendants or Wardens, joined to the Lord Provost, Baillies, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Convener, are appointed to be the Commissioners for laying on

the Assessments, and for executing the other powers of Commissioners in said Bill, agreeably to the principle of sections 76, 77, and 80 of the Police Bill of 1792.

And shall further agree, that no person shall have a vote for Electing said Superintendants, who is not liable to pay an Annual assessment upon Ten pounds or upwards, and that no person is eligible as Superintendant, who is not liable to pay an assessment upon twenty Pounds, fifteen Pounds, or ten Pounds, as the case may be, for his dwelling-house, in the ward for which he is eligible.

And further, shall agree, that for the sake of uniformity in the system, and for preventing all violent alterations therein, so far as may be, eight of the twenty-four Wardens shall be disqualified by Ballot at the end of the first year, and eight elected in their place for three years, and at the end of the second year, eight of the remaining sixteen to be disqualified in like manner, and eight to be elected for three years in their place, and thereafter the eight oldest Superintendants shall go out annually by rotation, and eight others elected as above, with full liberty, however, at all times to re-elect, or in some mode similar to the above, so as to create a regular rotation.

Then, upon receiving such Resolution, the Lord Provost will call the General meeting together to consider the same, and the particular Committee of this House shall report to their Constituents the result of such general Committee, for the opinion of this House thereon.

2nd.—That an Extract of the above Resolutions be delivered to the Lord Provost, that he may transmit the same to the Convener of the incorporated Trades, who are in opposition to the Police Bill.

18th April, 1800.

The Dean of Guild produced a copy of the intended Police Bill, with the alterations and amendments upon the same since it was last before the House, and the said alterations and amendments having been

read over and considered, The House did, and hereby approve of the same, and recommend that the Bill, as it now stands, be adopted.

30th April, 1800.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that, since their last Meeting on the Police Bill, the Town Council and Trades House had agreed that the Rent of Shops and Warehouses should be taken, in aggregate, along with the Rents of the Houses, in ascertaining the qualifications of Commissioners.

9th December, 1800.

The Dean of Guild laid before the House an Extract of an Act of Council, dated the 6th of November, 1800, containing the substance of the Report by a Committee appointed by the Council for purchasing Meal, Corn, &c., for the supply of the City and neighbourhood, and containing certain Resolutions in relation to the subscription for the purposes therein mentioned being continued for the ensuing year, by which Act it appears that a loss of about fifteen per Cent. had been incurred in that undertaking, and the Magistrates and Council thereby appointed a call of fifteen per Cent. to be made from the Subscribers; The House authorized the Collector to pay fifteen per Cent. on the sum of Five hundred Pounds, Sterling, subscribed for the House, in terms of the Minutes of the 19th of November, 1799, and authorized the Dean of Guild to continue the Subscription of Five hundred Pounds, Sterling, for the House, under deduction of the said fifteen per Cent., and also authorized the Dean of Guild to act with the Committee for managing the business.

Application was made to the House on behalf of certain persons, Proprietors of Grounds in the low parts of the Town, and bordering upon the River, for a subscription on the part of the House, to raise a fund for the purpose of making such operations on the River, as will

have a tendency to diminish the injurious consequences of Floods. The House appointed Messrs. Gilbert Hamilton, Alexander Low, and Archibald Grahame, as a Committee, any two a quorum, to consider of said application, and, if they shall judge it proper, to subscribe for the House any sum, not exceeding Twenty Guineas, for the above mentioned purpose.

27th February, 1801.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting in consequence of a Letter, addressed to him, from John Stirling, Esq., as Chairman of the Calico Printers, requesting a Meeting to be called of the Merchants House, to consider of the proposed additional Duty upon Printed Goods, which it is stated in the said Letter involves, in a material degree, not only the interest of the Calico Printers, but that of the Community at large. Resolved, that a Memorial be presented to the Lords of the Treasury, in relation to this subject; And the following draft of a Memorial, being produced and read over, was approved of, viz:—

Unto the Right Honourable The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury. The Memorial of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow,

Humbly Sheweth,—That the Manufacture of Printed Cloth has been carried on in this Country to a considerable extent, and has given bread to a great number of industrious persons of both sexes, many of whom could not easily be employed in the other Manufactures of this Country.

That your Memorialists observe, by the Votes of the Honourable House of Commons, that it is proposed to lay an additional tax on this Manufacture, of two pence halfpenny per square yard, which, if carried into a Law, is likely to be productive of ruinous consequences to the persons who have embarked large Capitals in this branch of business, as well as to many of the work people employed by them.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray that your Lordships would take this matter into consideration, and adopt such Measures, to avert the evils so much dreaded, as to your wisdom may seem proper, Signed by Order of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that, in consequence of the

great increase in the population of the City of late years, The Town Council had taken under consideration the propriety of altering the Set or Constitution of the City, by increasing the Number of Magistrates, and augmenting the Fine payable by those who refuse to act as Councillors and Magistrates, and in sundry other particulars; And had appointed a Committee to confer with Committees of the Merchants House and Trades House in relation thereto; The House appointed Messrs. Gilbert Hamilton, Archibald Grahame, and Henry Riddell, as a Committee for that purpose.

18th May, 1801.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting was called in consequence of an Application from the Manufacturers of Glasgow, to take under consideration the interruption occasioned to the Trade between the West India Islands and the Colonies of Spain, by His Majesty's Ships of War.

Resolved, that a Petition in relation to this subject should be presented to His Majesty, and the following Draft of a Petition being produced, was read and approved of by the House.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty. The Petition of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow,

Most Humbly Sheweth,—That the trade and prosperity of this City and neighbourhood as well as of other parts of your Majesty's Kingdoms, depend, in a great degree, upon a branch of Commerce, carried on to a considerable extent, from various Ports of your Majesty's West India Islands, with the Inhabitants of the Colonies of Spain.

This trade was carried on in Vessels of a certain description, under Licences from the Governors of those Islands, authorized by your Majesty's Orders in Council, and by your Royal Proclamations, whereby a vent was found for a considerable proportion of the Goods manufactured in Scotland.

But this beneficial and lucrative trade has of late been much interrupted by the seizure, as your Petitioners have been informed, of many of the Vessels employed in it, by your Majesty's Ships of War, and other British Armed Vessels, cruising in those Seas, whereby the Merchants and Traders engaged in it have suffered very great losses, and the Manufacturers employed by them, who depend on it for bread to their Families, are

reduced to great distress, and the trade must be lost to the Country, if some remedy be not provided.

The Petitioners most humbly pray that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to afford such relief in the premises, as in your wisdom shall seem proper.

Signed by Order of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow.

23d June, 1801.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting was called in consequence of an application from Mr. Walter Logan, in name of the Great Canal Company, to take under consideration the propriety of petitioning the Treasury for relief, in the Exportation of Foreign Sugars, &c., carried through the Canal.

Resolved, That a Memorial, in relation to this subject, should be presented to the Lords of the Treasury, and the following draft of a Memorial being produced, was read over and approved by the House:—

To the Right Honourable The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury. The Memorial of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow,

Humbly Sheweth,—That whereas, by Law, Foreign Sugars, Coffee, and Cocoa, when warehoused for Exportation, can be exported only from the Port of Importation, and as the Forth and Clyde Navigation is not of sufficient depth for allowing Sea Vessels of a middling size to pass along it with their Cargoes on board, the Merchants in this place are obliged, in many cases, to send their Ships loaded with these Goods, when bound for the Northern Ports of Europe, round the North of Scotland, at a considerable risk of Capture, or to send them through the aforesaid Navigation with a half Cargo.

That therefore it would be a public benefit to this part of the Kingdom, if Merchants were permitted to send the said Articles by this Navigation, to be shipped in larger Vessels at the east end thereof.

That it would also be of very great advantage to the trade of this place, if leave was given for Vessels with bonded Goods, drawing too much Water to pass through this Navigation fully loaded, to put part of their Cargoes on board of Lighters, to be re-shipt at the other end under the Inspection of an Officer of the Customs.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray that your Lordships will grant such relief as may be thought proper, under such Regulations as may be deemed necessary for securing the Revenue of His Majesty.

12th November, 1801.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting to submit to their consideration the propriety of addressing a Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury upon the subject of permitting the distillation of Spirits from Grain and Malt, expressing their desire that Government may be induced not to grant such permission previous to the ensuing Harvest.

The House was unanimously of opinion that a Memorial to that purpose should be presented, and the following draft of a Memorial being read over, was approved of by the House :—

To the Right Honourable The Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.
The Memorial of the Dean of Guild and Members of the Merchants
House of the City of Glasgow

Humbly Sheweth,—That various reports are in circulation, stating it to be the intention of Government to permit the distillation of Spirits from Grain and Malt, previous to the ensuing Harvest.

That your Memorialists are unacquainted with the causes which have given rise to those Reports; but they beg leave to state to your Lordships that their immediate effect has been a great advance in prices, to wit: On Oatmeal, from four to five shillings; on Barley, from six to seven shillings; and on Wheat, from eight to ten shillings, per Boll: by which the blessings expected to flow from an abundant Crop have been counteracted, and the following truth incontrovertibly established: That if such has been the consequence of a rumour, a further advance will infallibly take place should the measure be adopted.

That your Memorialists are impressed with a strong conviction of its injurious tendency, not only as it respects the Manufactures of the Country and the morals of the people, but also as it will materially abridge the comforts of the lower orders of the Community, whose resignation and fortitude under the heavy pressure of a general scarcity have been eminently exemplary.

Your Memorialists are at the same time aware that it is a subject of great intricacy, involving a variety of interests and opinions, and therefore, without attempting to point out the Measures which ought to be adopted by the Legislature, at a future period, they humbly beg leave again to represent to your Lordships that these reports have occasioned an advance of twenty to twenty-five per Cent. on Oatmeal and various kinds of Grain.

That the Country has suffered severely during two years of unexampled severity, which has been followed by one abundant Crop only; And your Memorialists therefore are led to entertain strong expectations that, on a full consideration of these circumstances, Government will be induced to continue in force until the Harvest, 1802, the prohibition against the distillation of Spirits from Grain and Malt.

8th December, 1801.

The Dean of Guild presented several Petitions for the vacant Bursary on the deceased John Craig's Mortification for a Student of Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, with the requisite Certificate as to the qualifications of the Petitioners; but one of these Petitions being for John Craig, a Student in the Logic Class, and another of them from Robert Craig, Student in the Natural Philosophy Class, and Craig being a name to be preferred by the Mortification to all others, except the Relations of the Mortifier, these two petitions alone, and corresponding Certificates, were ordered to be read; And the House being of opinion that it was more agreeable to the nature of the Mortification to confer the Bursary upon a Student of Logic than upon a Student of Natural Philosophy, whose course of Philosophy was so soon to expire, they unanimously presented the said John Craig, son of John Craig, in the Parish of Ballibay, in the County of Monaghan, in Ireland, to the benefit of the said Bursary.

9th March, 1802.

Mortification of Robert Saunders of Auldhous.—The Clerk was directed, in future, to give Notice in the Annual Advertisements respecting that Mortification, that the names Saunders, Corbet, Colquhoun, Wardrop, Dunlop, and Govan are preferable names.

Andrew Thomson, a Matriculated Member, who received a temporary supply in 1800, who now petitions to be enrolled a Pensioner; but as the Committee consider him to be a young man, and may be restored to health, they are of opinion that he ought to get a temporary aid of Fifteen Pounds, sterling, for the current year: which Report being considered by the House, they approve of the same.

Luke's Mortification.—The House taking into their consideration the terms of that Mortification, which are, that the benefit thereof shall be enjoyed by a poor, decayed, indigent, honest man of the Merchant

rank, Inhabitant and Burgess of the City of Glasgow, . . . Resolve, that in future the benefit of the said Mortification shall be bona fide conferred in terms of the grant above recited.

1st June, 1802.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that he had called them together in consequence of a Letter addressed to him by a number of the Members of the House, requesting him to call a Meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of paying Mr. Pitt some public mark of respect; which letter was read to the House.

Mr. Gilbert Hamilton moved, That this House thinks it proper that some public mark of respect be paid to Mr. Pitt, in such a way as not to interfere with the funds of the House; and the said motion being seconded by Mr. Cunningham Corbett, was carried by a great majority of votes.

The Dean of Guild, the Lord Provost, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Corbet, Mr. Glassford, and Mr. Craigie, were appointed a Committee to report their opinion what the said public mark of respect ought to be, and in what manner it ought to be carried into effect.

8th June, 1802.

The Committee appointed on the first instant gave in the following Report, viz. :—

Report of a Committee of the House with respect to a Motion made and adopted,—To wit, That this House thinks it proper that some public mark of respect be paid to Mr. Pitt.

Your Committee, deeply impressed with sentiments, respecting that illustrious Statesman, perfectly coinciding with a late decision of the House of Commons, are of opinion—

That it would be superfluous to add anything to those eulogiums on his public services, so recently, so eloquently, and so truly proclaimed to the world, as the voice of the Nation, by which it has been incontrovertibly established, that the firmness, the talents, and the magnanimity of that most distinguished and upright Patriot have, under Providence, and with the aid of his Colleagues in administration, preserved this

Country from experiencing any of those Revolutionary horrors with which a great part of Europe has for ten years past been afflicted.

Under these impressions, and with the view of affording to the numerous friends of Mr. Pitt, in the City of Glasgow and its vicinity, an opportunity of manifesting their high regard and attachment to his public and private character, Your Committee beg leave to propose to the House the adoption of the following Resolutions :—

That a Subscription be immediately opened for the purpose of erecting, without delay, a Statue of the Right Honourable William Pitt, in the City of Glasgow.

That the House, in its individual capacity, will lend every assistance towards promoting the Subscription.

The question being put that the foregoing Report be approved of, was agreed to, with only two dissentient voices.

14th June, 1803.

The Dean of Guild and Mr. John Buchanan were appointed to form a part of the general Committee for conducting the business of a Volunteer Regiment, offered to Government by the Magistrates and Town Council.

13th September, 1803.

The Memorial from the Professor of Theology in the University of Glasgow was laid before the House, of which the following is a copy :—

Unto the Honourable the Dean of Guild and Brethren of the Merchants House in the City of Glasgow. The Professor of Theology in the University thereof,

Humbly Sheweth,—That having seen from the College Records that Mr. Zachary Boyd mortified 1,000 lib., Scots, to the Gild Brethren of Glasgow, in the year 1635, for entertaining a Bursar or Student in Divinity to be presented by the Merchants House, in like manner as he then mortified 2,000 lib., Scots, to the Magistrates and Council for the purpose of maintaining two such Bursars to be presented by them; And having observed farther, that no presentation had ever appeared from the Merchants House upon this foundation since he had been called to fill the Theological Chair, he, after bestowing some pains to enquire into the transactions with respect to this Bursary, gave in to the Faculty, in the beginning of June, 1798, a Memorial, in which he set forth, among other things, that although there was no evidence from the College Records that there had been more than two Bursars on any foundation by Mr. Zachary Boyd, since the year 1751, yet there was full proof there had been three thereon in former times, but with several intermissions; That he had seen an extract of this following Minute

from the Books of the Merchants House:—"In 1655 The College granted a discharge to the Merchants House for 1,000 lib., Scots, mortified by Zach. Boyd, and obligation by them to fulfill the Will of the Donor, and pay the interest thereof to a Student of Divinity, to be presented by the Merchants House." As also, that in a presentation by the Dean of Guild and his Council in the year 1668, still preserved among other Writs of similar nature in the College repositories, there is an allusion or reference to this Bond and Obligation. That the Faculty of the College appointed a Committee of their number to consider this Memorial and bring in a report on the same.

That this Committee at length gave in their Report, dated May 10th, 1803, which bears,—“They are of opinion, that as it is the duty of Patrons to attend to their interest in these and other matters; It is sufficient for the College to inform the Merchants House that they have reason to believe that there ought to be a third Bursar on Boyd's Mortification; And that they will be ready to receive a third Bursar when the Merchants House shall have enquired into the matter, and shall be able to satisfy the College that no transaction has taken place in former times, by which the College have been relieved from the burden of it.

“May it therefore please the Dean of Guild and Gentlemen of the Merchants House to present some Student of Theology to this Bursary, founded by Mr. Zachary Boyd, early in November, or sooner, that the pious design of the Donor may be no more disappointed, as it hath been too often already, but may be henceforth regularly and fully answered.

(Signed) ROBERT FINDLAY.

Glasgow Coll., Sept. 3rd, 1803.

The Dean of Guild was requested to transmit the thanks of the House to Dr. Findlay for the above communication; and the Dean of Guild, Mr. Laurie, Mr. Archibald Smith, Mr. Gilbert Hamilton, and the Collector, were appointed a Committee to investigate the nature and state of the above-mentioned Bursary.

13th October, 1803.

The Committee appointed on the 13th of September last for making enquiries relative to the Bursary of Mr. Zachary Boyd's mortification, reported that it did not appear to them, upon searching the Records of the House, that any transaction had taken place by which the College of Glasgow was relieved from the burthen of that Bursary.

The House therefore resolved to fill up the presentation to the

said Bursary upon the 26th of October instant, to be advertised as usual, and appoint a Meeting to be held on that day.

26th October, 1803.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had given notice, at the last Meeting of the House, that a proposition was to be brought forward at this Meeting, for the House to grant from the funds a sum of Money for defraying the expense of the Volunteer Corps of this City. The House having fully considered the subject, after hearing several Members deliver their opinions in relation thereto, Resolved, by a great majority, that in the present critical state of the Country, when our Enemies appear determined immediately to attempt to carry into effect their long-threatened purpose of Invasion, it is proper and necessary for this House to contribute a part of their funds, to be applied, along with the sums subscribed by other public Bodies and Individuals of this City, towards assisting and defraying the expenses of the several Volunteer Corps at present forming in Glasgow. Resolved, by a great majority, that the Dean of Guild be authorized, in the name of the House, to subscribe the sum of Five hundred Pounds, Sterling, for the above purpose,—The House at the same time declaring that nothing but the strong necessity and extreme importance of the measure could induce the House to appropriate any part of their funds to any other purposes than to Charitable uses, And that this should not be considered as a precedent for any future application of this nature.

13th March, 1804.

The Dean of Guild, with two other Members, were appointed a Committee to get the Dial plates of the Steeple renewed, with Minute hands, as well as Hour hands, to them.

The Dean of Guild, with three other Members, were appointed a

Committee for enclosing the Fir Park, and filling up the vacant ground with planting.

The Dean of Guild reported that he had had some communing with the Principal of the College, in relation to Zachary Boyd's Mortification for a Bursar, from which it appeared, that the College alleged that they had some claim of being free from the burden of that Mortification altogether. The House authorized the Dean of Guild to settle with the College, on the footing of their agreeing to sustain the presentation lately granted, and all future presentations, the House on their part agreeing to depart from all claims for bygones.

24th April, 1804.

The Dean of Guild, in name of the Committee for inclosing the Fir Park, reported that it would be advantageous to that property for the House to purchase three small pieces of Ground adjoining thereto, which are at present the property of Daniel Christie, Mason, who has offered to sell the same to the House.

The said Committee, with the addition of Mr. Swanston, were authorized to conclude a bargain with the said Daniel Christie, on the most advantageous terms in their power, and were authorized, along with the Collector to grant a Bill for the price, payable at Martinmas next, with interest from Whitsunday first, in case it may not be convenient for the Collector to pay the money at Whitsunday.

19th June, 1804.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting of the House was called to consider what measures should be adopted by the House, in relation to the Corn Bill at present depending in Parliament.

Resolved that this House should Petition the Honourable House of Commons, praying that the said Bill should not pass into a Law.

The following Draft of a Petition being presented, was read over and approved of by the House:—

That your Petitioners have, with much regret, perused the Report of a Committee of this Honourable House recommending a very material and alarming alteration in the existing Corn Laws, which, if carried into effect, will prove in its consequences highly injurious to the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of this part of the Kingdom.

That an unrestrained Importation and Exportation of Grain and Meal is the surest foundation on which the power and prosperity of the Empire can rest, and in this very populous district, the produce of which is wholly inadequate to the consumption of the Inhabitants, it is essentially necessary, for their subsistence, and for the encouragement of their Manufactures, that regular supplies, and at equitable rates, should be uniformly afforded from the nearest Ports.

That the injurious and impolitic Regulations proposed by the Committee of this Honourable House for its adoption will, if passed into a Law, prove highly discouraging to the Manufacturer, detrimental to the Fisheries, distressing to the Poor, and may tend to depopulate a part of the Kingdom, the Inhabitants of which are already but too prone to emigrate, and who will carry with them to other Nations that Industry and Skill which every wise Government should foster, and thereby retain in its own Country.

That your Petitioners beg leave humbly to represent to this Honourable House, in respectful, but in firm language, that, without entering into the detailed parts of the Report in question, they feel themselves called upon to express their decided disapprobation of its principle, which, if entertained and acted upon, they conceive will be found to be fraught with consequences the most dangerous to the best interests of the State.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that this Honourable House will, in its wisdom, reject a Measure so injurious to public prosperity and so ruinous to individual interests; and that should it be considered expedient to propose any alterations in the Corn Law, either as Measures of regulation, or otherways, that sufficient time may be afforded to those so deeply interested therein to express to this Honourable House their sentiments on a subject of such high importance to this part of the Kingdom, and to the general prosperity of the Empire.

12th March, 1805.

The thanks of the House were unanimously voted to Mr. Carrick, the late Dean of Guild, for his attention to the interests of the House during the period of his being Dean of Guild, in procuring entries with the House, and building a Dyke round the Fir Park.

A Letter to the Dean of Guild, from Robert M'Nair, Convener of

the Committee appointed by the Directors of the Town's Hospital, to take into consideration the state of the Lunatic ward, inclosing copy of a Memorial (copy not given), which had been presented to the Magistrates and Town Council, was laid before the House.

The Dean of Guild, John Gordon, Nicol Brown, John Buchanan, James Buchanan, George M'Intosh, and John Swanston, were appointed a Committee to consider the letter and copy Memorial, and to Report what sum should, in their opinion, be subscribed by the House, to the proposed Institution of a Lunatic Asylum.

10th September, 1805.

The Committee appointed to report upon what sum should in their opinion be subscribed by the Merchants House to the proposed Institution of a Lunatic Asylum, Reported, that after having examined the Books, and considered the state of the funds, they are of opinion that the said House may subscribe £300, Sterling, but they cannot advise the House to subscribe more than that sum.

The House having heard the above Report, approved thereof, and Resolved that £300 should be allowed for the above purpose from the funds of the House.

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10th December, 1805.

Mr. Hopkirk stated to the Meeting that he had for some years corresponded with Mr. James Henderson of the State of Virginia, whose Sister was among the number of those who received assistance from the House, and that Mr. Henderson had written him, expressing his gratitude for this assistance, and that he therefore proposed to give a Donation of Four hundred Pounds, Sterling, to the House, on consideration that the interest therefrom should be paid to his Sister during her life, and at her decease it should afterwards be at the disposal of the House.

The House agreed to accept of the Four hundred Pounds on these terms, and unanimously voted the thanks of the House to be given to Mr. Henderson for his very liberal Donation in addition to the funds; And the Clerk was directed to give an Extract of this Minute to Mr. Hopkirk, which he was requested to transmit to Mr. Henderson by the first opportunity, and Mr. Hopkirk was also requested to publish an account of this Donation in the Newspapers.

11th March, 1806.

Euphemia Campbell, daughter of Robert Campbell, Great Granddaughter of John Napier of Napierston, who gave a Donation to the House, in the year 1703, of 4,000 merks, enrolled a Pensioner for £10.

Respecting the Application from Mathew Miller (matriculated 9th October, 1804), The Meeting are of opinion, from the situation of Mr. Miller at the time he matriculated, that it was evidently with a view to get the Charity of the House, which ought to be discouraged; but on account of the particular distressed state in which he is, the Committee recommend to the House to give him a Donation of £10 for this year only; which Donation was approved of by the House.

The Annual Committee are authorized by the House to get the Hall painted.

9th December, 1806.

There was laid before the House a Letter from the Right Honourable The Earl of Eglinton to the Dean of Guild, in which his Lordship expresses his hopes that the House would become Subscribers to the proposed Canal from Glasgow to Ardrossan. The House having taken this Letter into consideration, Resolved, That as the funds of the House are altogether applicable to Charitable purposes, it would be improper in the House to subscribe to the proposed Canal; and

They authorized the Dean of Guild to communicate this Resolution to his Lordship.

A Memorial for Hutchesons' Hospital was laid before the House, of which the following is a copy:—

Memorial for Hutchesons' Hospital. To the Merchants House of Glasgow.

Janet Henderson, in the year 1790, was enrolled a Pensioner on the funds of Hutchesons' Hospital for £10 per annum, which she enjoyed to the year 1796. Her brother, Mr. Henderson, having acquired some money in America, from motives extremely honourable to him, lately remitted £400, intended for a Donation to the fund from which she drew this Pension, to be burdened with an Annuity to her of £20, in place of the Pension.

The Money was remitted to Mr. Hopkirk of Dalbeth, who, supposing the Pension was paid by the Merchants House, presented the sum to that Body; but this was a mistake, for Miss Henderson never received any support from the funds of the Merchants House.

The Patrons of the Hospital have no doubt, on these circumstances being represented to the Merchants House, that the Money will be paid by the House to them.

(Signed) Gilbt. Hamilton, Preceptor of Hutchesons' Hospital.

To which Memorial is annexed a Certificate by Mr. James Hopkirk, in the following terms:—

The above is a true representation of the facts; and from Mr. Henderson's correspondence, he certainly meant the money to be given to the Charity from whence his Sister had received the Annuity.

(Signed) James Hopkirk.

Dalbeth, 4th December, 1806.

The House referred the said Memorial to the Annual Committee.

2nd March, 1807.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting was called for the purpose of considering the heads of a new Police Bill for the City, lately circulated by the Magistrates and Council.

The House having maturely deliberated upon the subject, unanimously adopted the following Resolutions—with the exception of one dissenting voice to the fifth:—

First, That the proposed Bill, being in all its essential Clauses the same with the existing Act, is obviously well adapted for promoting

the Security, Convenience, and Comfort of the Inhabitants of this large and populous City: Approve therefore of its provisions in general, and Recommend to the Magistrates and Council to take the necessary measures for having it passed into a Law.

But with respect to some of its particular Clauses, They farther Resolve—

Second, That the continuing the Annual Payment of £800, Sterling, out of the ordinary Revenue of the City, is a reasonable contribution on the part of the Magistrates and Council.

Third, That the proposed Extension of Assessment by the Commissioners is a proper provision, as it gives a power merely calculated to meet emergencies, and not with the view of being exercised but when Circumstances make it indispensably necessary.

Fourth, That it is reasonable and proper That all the Magistrates should, *ex Officio*, be Commissioners; But recommend that the present number of Bailies be specified in the Bill.

Fifth, That the proposed alteration in the Qualification of Commissioners is reasonable and expedient.

Sixth, That it will be highly eligible to place the Fire Engines and their Appurtenances for the Extinction of Fire under the management of the Officers of Police; and that it is not unreasonable that all the Expenses incurred in keeping these Engines, &c., in repair, and in extinguishing Fires, should be defrayed from the general Police fund, so far as these expenses cannot be recovered from the Individuals interested; But, in order to lighten this Burden as much as possible upon the Police funds, Resolve to take into consideration, at next Meeting, the propriety of giving up, and paying annually to the Commissioners of Police, towards defraying the expense of extinguishing Fires, the sum which this House has been in use for many years to receive, in name of Bucket Money, from every Burgess at his entry, and which has hitherto gone into the general fund.

Seventh, That the Clause compelling Coals to be weighed for the purpose of detecting and preventing the frauds of Coal Carters is highly expedient, and will likely save to the Inhabitants three or four times the sum to be paid for each weighing.

Eighth, That it is reasonable and proper that all the Fines levied from Delinquents under the Bill should, in the first place, be applied in defraying the expense of bringing such Delinquents to trial and punishment.

Ninth, That the Clause relative to the Fares and Wages of Pilots, Bargemen, Lightermen, &c., plying on the River, may, perhaps, with greater propriety, be introduced into the Bill for carrying into effect the proposed improvements at the Broomielaw; And that, at all events, the powers specified in the said Clause should be vested in the Lord Provost, Bailies, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Convener of this City, and in the Bailies of Greenock and of Port-Glasgow.

Finally, Recommend these Resolutions to the notice of the Magistrates and Council, and request the Dean of Guild to present an Extract thereof at their first Meeting, as well as after signing them in name of the House, to have them published once in each of the "Glasgow Courier," and "Herald."

10th March, 1807.

The Committee having considered the Memorial and Application from Hutchesons' Hospital for the £400, the Donation of Mr. Henderson of Virginia, and the Dean of Guild having reported that he had seen the Letter from Mr. Henderson to Mr. Hopkirk relative to that Donation, from which it appears that it was intended for that Charity, agree to pay that sum to the Preceptor of the Hospital, with interest at four per cent. since it was received by the House, under deduction of the annuities paid to Miss Henderson, and authorize the Collector to pay it accordingly.

Which Report of Committee being considered by the House, they approve of the same.

The Dean of Guild and two other Members were appointed a Committee to meet with Committees from the Council and from the Trades

House, to consider the propriety of giving up the paying annually to the Commissioners of Police, towards defraying the expense of extinguishing Fires, the sum which this House has been in use for many years to receive, in name of Bucket Money, from every Burgess at his entry, and which has hitherto gone into the general fund.

The Dean of Guild having called the attention of the House to the intended Improvements on the Harbour at the Broomielaw, and informed them what steps the Magistrates and Council had hitherto taken with respect to that much-wished for object, as well as of the general principles of the Heads of the Bill which is meant to be presented to Parliament for the purpose, The House, after unanimously declaring the absolute necessity of having additional Berth-room for Vessels at the Broomielaw, and of getting further accommodation there for behoof of the Trade, which has long been felt to be much wanted, Approve of what has been done by the Magistrates and Council, and earnestly recommended to them to continue their exertions in this matter, and to endeavour to get the proposed Bill passed into a Law with all convenient speed.

25th March, 1807.

The Dean of Guild stated that this meeting was called for the express purpose of considering the Heads of the Bill for making the proposed improvements at the Broomielaw, lately circulated by the Magistrates and Town Council.

The House having maturely deliberated upon the subject, and having also considered the Report thereupon by a Committee appointed by the Magistrates and Council, and by a general Meeting of the Inhabitants interested in the improvements at the Broomielaw, which was also circulated along with the Heads of the Bill, unanimously approved of the foresaid Heads of the Bill, and of the foresaid Report, and recommended to the Magistrates and Council to take the proper measures for having the said Bill passed into a Law.

15th May, 1807.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that he had called them together to consider a Representation from the City Council of Aberdeen, to the Lord Provost of Glasgow, respecting the Clause in the Mutiny Act in relation to enlisting of Apprentices. The House named the Dean of Guild, Mr. John Hamilton, Mr. Cunningham Corbett, and Mr. Alexander Campbell, as a Committee, Mr. Hamilton Convener, to meet with the Committees appointed by the Town Council, by the Trades House, and by the Chamber of Commerce, for the purpose of Drawing up a Memorial on the subject to His Majesty's Ministers.

3rd September, 1807.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that, agreeably to the appointment of last Meeting, a Memorial had been presented to the Lords of the Treasury respecting the Clause in the Mutiny Bill about enlisting Apprentices, of which a copy follows :—

That your Memorialists beg leave to refer to the Representation made to your Lordships, by the Magistrates and Council of this City, with regard to the Clause in the present Mutiny Act, by which it is declared that no Master shall be entitled to claim any Apprentice who shall enlist as a Soldier in his Majesty's Land Service, unless such Apprentice shall have been bound for the full term of Seven Years.

In Scotland the law does not require, as in England, that Apprenticeships shall be for any particular term of years. In general, the term of service is three and four, or occasionally five years, except for the purpose of obtaining the freedom of Corporations. And if it is required that, in order to liberate an Apprentice from enlistment, the term of service shall be longer than almost ever takes place in this part of the Country, the new provision in the Mutiny Act, in fact, throws loose and does away almost all Indentures of Apprentices whatever.

To show that an Enactment which has such an effect is, and must be, highly prejudicial to the Manufacturing and Trading interests of this part of the Empire, no arguments are necessary. Your Memorialists humbly conceive that the Legislature was not aware of the consequences of the provision when it was passed into a Law. They trust, therefore, that when Parliament meets, His Majesty's Ministers will see the propriety of an alteration being made in the Clause of the Mutiny Act above referred to, so far as it relates to Scotland. And what they with deference propose is, That the general provision of the former Mutiny Act on this subject should be restored, or that

the term of service required should be limited to three or four years, And that, at any rate, the retrospective operation of the present Statute should be taken away. In the meantime, to prevent the injurious effects of the present Law being further felt, your Memorialists also humbly hope that directions will be issued to the Officers on the Recruiting service not to avail themselves of the Clause relative to Apprentices until further Orders.

The Dean of Guild also stated that, in consequence of this representation, the officers on the recruiting service had in the meantime received instructions not to enlist apprentices under legal indenture.

Mr. John Maxwell, the Clerk of the House, having died since last Meeting, the Collector is appointed to act as Interim Clerk till next Meeting for election.

8th December, 1807.

The Committee on the Bucket Money gave in the following Report :—

Glasgow, 28th November, 1807.

The Committee appointed by the House, upon the 10th of March last, “to meet with the Committees from the Town Council and from the Trades House, to consider the propriety of giving up, and paying annually to the Commissioners of the Police, towards defraying the expenses of extinguishing fires, the sum which this House has been in use for many years to receive, in name of Bucket Money, from every Burgess at his entry;” having accordingly met with these Committees upon the instant, beg leave to make the following Report :—

The whole of the Gentlemen of these Committees were unanimously of opinion, that the money was originally intended and levied from the Burgesses, for the purpose of assisting to pay the expenses of extinguishing Fires in the City, and therefore very readily agreed that—as the establishment of Fire Engines and the charges of attending to the extinguishing of Fires were lately put upon a new footing, by being in the Act of Parliament committed to the care of the Commissioners of Police—this was a very proper time to allow that fund to recur to its original use, and that it should accordingly be accounted for hereafter, by the Clerk who collects it, to the said Commissioners of Police, instead of being paid to the Merchants and Trades Houses.

The other Committees, consequently, were to report this their opinion to their respective constituents, and to recommend that the above plan should be adopted.

Your Committee, then, also recommend the concurrence of this House therein; but under the express proviso that, should the Police Law, at the expiration of the present Act, not be renewed, or should it be renewed without the charge of extinguishing Fires in the City being continued under that Police Establishment, then the full half of this

Bucket Money should again revert to the use of this House, and be paid to them as heretofore, or, at all events, be subject to their future disposal.

Upon considering which, the House do unanimously approve thereof, and do hereby authorize their Collector to pay that part of the Burgess fines, which is paid to them in name of Bucket Money, to the Commissioners of Police, under the express proviso that should the Police Law, at the expiration of the present Act, not be renewed, or should it be renewed without the charge of extinguishing Fires in the City being continued under that Establishment, then the full half of the Bucket Money shall revert to the House, and be subject to their future disposal.

The following Report was given in by the Annual Committee :—

Glasgow, 1st December, 1807.

In consequence of that part of the Minute of last Meeting (15th October) which states, "That James Hill is appointed to act as Clerk to the House until the Annual Committee report to them some matters respecting that Office," The Dean of Guild called a Meeting of that Committee this day, and stated to them that the particular matter alluded to was a suggestion by some of the Members of the House that, seeing the Clerkship was at present vacant, by the death of the late Mr. Maxwell of Dargavel, the Offices of Collector and Clerk might, in their estimation, be very properly conjoined.

The Committee, which was very fully met, having accordingly deliberately considered and discussed the subject in all its views, unanimously agreed that the House should continue to have a Clerk in a separate person from the Collector; and they now beg leave to report this as their opinion to the House.

After this business had been disposed of, the Dean of Guild also called the attention of the Meeting to what he conceived, and what he was sure they would all grant, was a matter of very considerable moment to the affairs of the House.

He represented to them—what, indeed, they all very well knew—how difficult it has been for a number of years past, and how difficult it is now, to collect together as many Members of the House at the general Quarterly Meetings as are required by the Rules and Regulations of the House to make a quorum, namely, at present, 22; And wished to know whether they would think it right to diminish the number of this quorum, and what the number, if they were of that opinion, should be reduced to.

The Committee beg leave to report to the House as their unanimous opinion, that, all circumstances considered, the quorum of the House, at all their general Meetings, should hereafter be reduced to, and fixed, at fifteen. But they at same time beg leave to remind the House that this is one of those new Regulations or Bye-Laws which will require the sanction and authority of the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council; and therefore recommend to the House that, should they adopt this report, the Dean of

Guild be instructed to lay an Extract of the Minute before the Magistrates and Council, without loss of time, accompanied with a request that they would interpose their authority accordingly, as the Resolution cannot be acted upon till that is obtained.

Which Report having been considered by the House, they unanimously approve thereof in all its parts, and they accordingly resolve that in future the quorum of the House shall be fifteen; and they request the Dean of Guild to lay this Resolution before the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council for their sanction, to give this law or regulation validity, in terms of the Constitution of the House.

The House then proceeded to elect a Clerk, and unanimously elected John Maxwell, Writer in Glasgow, to be their Clerk till next ordinary time of election.

8th March, 1808.

The Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, being in Council assembled on the 31st December, 1807, [after narrating the Report of the Committee as to reducing the quorum of the House at all their general Meetings from 22 to 15, as also the Minute of the House thereanent;] On considering which, the Magistrates and Council approve thereof, Ratify and Confirm the Regulations therein contained, and ordain the same to take effect from and after this date.

14th June, 1808.

The Dean of Gild informed the House that he had received a letter from the Lord Advocate, transmitting the heads of a Bill for regulating Mercantile Bankruptcy in Scotland. The House appointed Mr. Daniel M'Kenzie, Mr. James Buchanan, and Mr. M. Muirhead, as a Committee to examine the Bill, and to correspond with such other public bodies or individuals as they may think necessary, and to report to the House.—Mr. Daniel M'Kenzie, Convener.

13th June, 1809.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that the Road from the Quarry, by Messrs. M'Intosh's works, to Duke street was nearly impas-

sable, and that as a very considerable Revenue was obtained by the House from these Quarries, it would be proper to contribute a certain proportion of the expense of putting that Road in repair. The House appoint four Members—Mr. Dennistoun, Convener—to examine the Road and to report to next Meeting what sum ought to be contributed by the House for that purpose.

A letter was laid before the House from Martin Dalrymple of Cleland to the Dean of Guild, on the subject of a Rail Road from the Monkland Canal to Berwick-upon-Tweed. The House authorize the Dean of Guild to subscribe £21 Sterling, towards defraying the expense of that Survey.

Mr. John M'Caul stated to the House that Mr. Robert Ingram, of London, had some time ago sent a Monument to be placed in one of the Public Halls in this City, in memory of his Grandfather, the late Provost Ingram. He further stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Gilchrist, of Edinburgh, a near relation of Mr. Ingram's, requesting that the said Monument might be placed in the Merchants Hall of this City; which letter was laid before the House. The House having taken the same into their consideration, agreed to the request, and appointed the Dean of Guild and three other Members a Committee to see the same carried into execution.

12th October, 1809.

It was unanimously agreed to by the House that the fine of five shillings be exacted from every Member of Council who shall in future be absent from the regular Meetings of the House, without having a sufficient excuse.

1st February, 1810.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that this Meeting was, at request of several Members, called to consider what measures should be

adopted for obtaining a continuation of the prohibition from distilling from Grain. Resolved, That the House should petition the Honourable House of Commons, praying that the prohibition should be continued. The following Draft of a Petition being presented to, and read over, was approved of by the House:—

That your Petitioners find themselves imperiously called upon, in the present extraordinary circumstances of the Country, humbly and respectfully to represent to this Honourable House the calamitous consequences which will result to all classes of His Majesty's Subjects, if the prohibition of the distillation from Grain be at the present juncture discontinued.

Situated in a District of the Empire where the Grain raised is not more than sufficient for the consumpt of one-third of its population, your Petitioners cannot contemplate without apprehension the distress that would be occasioned to the industrious and labouring part of the community, by a farther rise in the prices of Grain, which would be the natural and infallible consequence of the discontinuance of the prohibition. And as Ireland is the chief source from whence the necessary supplies for this part of the Country are received, a permission to distill from Grain, in that part of the United Kingdom, would be equally hurtful to the inhabitants of this district.

It has been already proved by experience, that the prohibition of distillation from Grain has been attended with the most beneficial effects. And your Petitioners beg leave to state that the reasons which first gave rise to this necessary measure still exist, and at the present moment are more urgent than they were at the time the prohibition originated.

As the expediency and necessity of continuing the prohibition has lately been discussed in your Honourable House, your Petitioners will not enter into farther details; But they beg leave to mention that the prices of Grain are considerably higher than at the time the last Act was passed; that they are greatly higher than what is considered as an ample remuneration to the Growers, and who, of course, can have no cause to complain of the continuation of the Prohibition; and this last circumstance enables your Petitioners to make the present Appeal to your Honourable House with greater confidence than they otherwise could have done.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House
may continue the prohibition of distillation from Grain in all
the three United Kingdoms.

Resolved, That the Dean of Guild be desired to sign the Petition in name of this House, affix the Seal thereto, and transmit the same to Alexander Houston, Esq., Member of Parliament for the City.

12th June, 1810.

The House allow the Officer £5 for putting on the Fires and keeping the House clean, annually.

17th July, 1810.

The following Report was read to the House:—

Glasgow, 13th July, 1810.

Sederunt, The Dean of Guild and four Members of the Annual Committee of the Merchants House. The Dean of Guild informed the Meeting that, from an alteration which had taken place in the Plan of the proposed Street, leading from the Old Bridge eastward, in place of taking any of the ground belonging to the House, the Street would run more to the South, and would leave a considerable piece of ground betwixt the Street and the Merchants House Garden; And he therefore proposed that the Committee would consider the propriety of recommending to the House to purchase this ground from the City. The Committee having examined the place, are of opinion that it will be advisable to purchase the ground in question, and agree to recommend this measure to the House.

The House approve of the measure recommended in the above Report, and appoint Mr. Archibald Smith and Mr. John Wardrop, with the Collector, to arrange with the Town of Glasgow the quantity of the ground to be taken, and the price to be paid by the House.

11th October, 1810.

A Petition from several parties to the Dean of Guild and his Brethren of Council was read, in which the Petitioners crave that an Abstract of the Regulations which compose the Constitution of the House, with a List of its Members, the amount of its Funds, where they are invested, and how they are applied, may be made out.

This Petition was referred to the Dean of Guild, Mr. James Black, and the Collector, as a Committee.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House, That as he relied on the attendance of the Members, he intended for the ensuing year not to levy Fines from Absentees.

17th October, 1810.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that this Meeting was, at the request of several Members, called to consider what measures should be adopted for obtaining a continuation of the prohibition from distilling from Grain. Resolved, That the House should address His Majesty, praying to continue, by Proclamation, the restriction against distilling from Grain.

The following Draft of a Petition, being presented to, and read over, was approved of by the House:—

That by the wise and salutary Act, passed last Session of Parliament, prohibiting the use of Grain in Distillation, your Majesty's subjects have been greatly benefited; and as your Majesty is empowered to exercise your Majesty's Royal discretion, either to permit the Distillation of Grain after the 1st day of October, 1810, or to continue the prohibition till after the Meeting of Parliament, We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful Subjects, beg leave to address you on this most important and interesting subject. The peculiar situation of the Country, with respect to its Continental Trade and relations, having induced your Majesty's Parliament, in their wisdom, to suspend the distillation of Grain, the same causes still continuing to exist, will, we humbly hope, suggest to your Majesty in Council the propriety of continuing the suspension.

Blessed as we have been with a Crop exceeding what at an early period of the year we had reason to expect, and notwithstanding the Foreign supplies we have received, no material reduction has as yet taken place in the price of this most necessary article.

The unprecedented state of our intercourse with the Continent, and the difficulty of procuring Markets for our Manufactures, have operated to produce a very considerable reduction in the price of labour, the consequence of which would have been more severely felt if the Distillation from Grain had continued, and its price thereby necessarily enhanced. While, therefore, the lower orders of the Community have been enabled to procure Bread, at comparatively a lower price than otherwise they would have done, by this wise and salutary measure, relief has also been afforded to the West India Trade, by the use of Sugar in Distillation, which our exclusion from the Ports on the Continent would otherwise have rendered unsaleable. The Conquest of our Enemies' Colonies, in addition to those of our own, has occasioned an accumulation of West India produce, far beyond what the consumption of the Country or Exportation, in its present limited state, could carry off; and this heavy stock, remaining in the hands of the Importers, prevents him from purchasing that quantity of the products and manufactures of this Country, which he formerly was accustomed to purchase. If, therefore, Sugar—the only suitable production of the West Indies—is to be confined to the ordinary consumption of the Country, while at the same time Foreign Ports are shut against its Importation,

this article must fall in price and accumulate in quantity, and thereby add to that distress which the Commercial World at present labours under.

While, therefore, we have such an abundant supply of Sugar, and can find no other adequate consumption for it than Distillation, and so long as the price of Grain remains so high, We humbly hope that your Majesty, in your Majesty's paternal care of His people, will continue the suspension of Grain in Distillation, till your Majesty's Parliament meet, and have time to deliberate and thoroughly investigate a subject of such importance to the Kingdom at large.

Signed in our Name and by our appointment, and the Seal of the Corporation hereto affixed, at Glasgow, the 17th of October, 1810.

11th December, 1810.

Upon a verbal Report from the Committee on the Road from Duke Street to the Quarries, the House agree to contribute £84 towards defraying the expense of repairing that Road ; and the House authorize the said Committee to let the Quarries for a term not exceeding three years.

The House agree to increase the Salary of the Collector to £50, and of the Clerk to £25, and authorize the Collector to take credit for these sums in his current account.

12th March, 1811.

The House resolve that the Town of Glasgow, not only in future pay five per cent. on all the Money borrowed by them from the House, but placed upon Establishments, so as to allow the House to receive the Interest, without deduction of the Property Tax, and direct the Dean of Guild to notify this Resolution to the Town.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that application had been made to him to take shares in the Railway between Glasgow and Berwick. The House are of opinion that no shares should be taken by them.

29th March, 1811.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that this Meeting was, at

the request of several Members, called to consider what measures should be adopted for having the Bill, at present before Parliament, respecting the Distilleries passed into a Law.

Resolved, That the House should petition the House of Commons, praying that the Bill for equalizing the duties on Spirits made from Sugar and Grain may speedily pass into a Law.

The House authorize the Dean of Guild to subscribe Twenty-one Pounds, Sterling, for the relief of British Prisoners in France.

29th October, 1811.

The Dean of Guild stated that this Meeting was called to consider what measures should be adopted for stopping the Distillation from Grain.

Resolved, That the House should address His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, praying to adopt such measures as may seem best calculated for preventing any unnecessary consumption of Grain.

The following Draft of a Petition being presented to, was read over, and approved of by the House :—

That your Petitioners, in the most respectful manner, beg leave to represent to your Royal Highness the alarming state of the Country, through the deficiency of the Crop of the present year, and earnestly to urge the necessity of adopting such measures as in your wisdom may seem best calculated for preventing the evil consequences of scarcity.

That your Petitioners are filled with fearful apprehensions when they consider how much Grain and Potatoes have been lost and injured by the severity of the weather, and how much of the Crop is still exposed in a decaying state. And also, when they consider how unable the labouring classes of the Community will be to provide the absolute necessities of life at advanced rates, while the wages they are receiving are lower than last year, when Provisions were cheap and in plenty, and when, even at that time, a voluntary Contribution to a considerable extent was found indispensably requisite to supply the wants of these Classes, many of whom could not get employment owing to the stagnation of Trade.

That your Petitioners look back with satisfaction to the beneficial effects which in late times have been experienced from stopping the Distillation of Grain, and therefore would humbly solicit that a similar measure should again be adopted without delay.

30th January, 1812.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting at the request of the Committee of the American Merchants, for the purpose of taking into their consideration the propriety of Petitioning Parliament regarding the losses sustained by the British Merchants trading to North America previous to the War.

Resolved, That the House should Petition the House of Commons, and the House of Peers if necessary, praying that they would take the case of these Merchants into their most serious consideration.

The following Draft of a Petition being presented, was read over, and approved of by the House :—

That understanding a Petition has been presented to your Honourable House from the British Merchants trading to North America before the War, praying for compensation on account of the Government of this Country having accepted the sum of Six hundred thousand Pounds, Sterling, from the United States, in satisfaction to them, for the losses they sustained by the breach of the fourth Article of the Treaty of Peace between America and Great Britain, while the losses amounted to no less than One Million four hundred and twenty thousand Pounds, Sterling.

That your Petitioners beg leave to represent not only the peculiar hardship which these Claimants have sustained by the smallness of the sum they have received in comparison of their losses, but also the length of time that has now elapsed before it was obtained. That to these Merchants trading to North America previous to the War, this part of the Country has been much indebted, not only for the great extension of its Commerce, but for the establishment, and for a considerable time the support, of its Manufactures, now so highly advantageous to this Kingdom.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to take the case of your Petitioners into your most serious consideration, and to grant such relief as in your wisdom may seem fit.

21st March, 1812.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting, at the request of several Members, to consider of Petitioning Parliament against the Monopoly of the Trade to India and China.

Resolved, That the House should Petition the House of Commons, praying that no Monopoly be granted of the Trade to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope.

The following Draft of a Petition being presented, was read over, and approved of by the House :—

That your Petitioners have, in common with other Classes of His Majesty's subjects, been prevented from trading to the Countries to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, in consequence of Charters of Monopoly, granted to the East India Company.

That your Petitioners humbly beg leave to represent that they are, by such Charters, not only individually excluded from a most beneficial Commerce, but they are deprived of Privileges which they are proud to praise as their birthright, and which, as no temptation could induce them willingly to relinquish, no payment is sufficient to purchase.

That besides the manifest injury which such Charters have produced on the efforts of Individuals, they have necessarily had a similar effect on the National resources, which, under a free trade, must have become greatly more considerable than while the Commerce is restricted and confined.

Your Petitioners, being convinced that such important truths cannot fail to produce conviction of the impolicy of any monopoly of the Trade to India and China, look to the expiration of the present East India Charter with the confident hope of seeing a period put to any exclusive trade to these Countries, and a wide field thus laid open to the Capital, Skill, and Industry of British Merchants and Manufacturers.

In this confident hope and expectation your Petitioners most humbly pray this Honourable House that no Monopoly be granted of the Commerce and Navigation to the Countries Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, but that the Trade may be free and open, in the same manner as other branches of Commerce, not only to the Port of London, but to all the other Ports of Great Britain and Ireland.

8th September, 1812.

The following Report, from the Committee appointed on the 10th October last, on the Petition of James Ross and others, was laid before the Meeting, viz:—

There was laid before the Committee a Petition from certain Matriculate Members to the Dean of Guild and his Brethren of Council, craving that they would order an Abstract of the Constitution and Rules of the House, a state of its Funds, and a List of its Members, to be printed and distributed.

The Petition being taken into consideration, the Meeting order the Constitution, Rules, and Regulations of the House, which were printed in the year 1795, and on which there has been since no alteration, to be distributed to such Members as may apply for the same, upon their paying, for each copy, two shillings for defraying the

expense of a new Edition of the same, which, in consequence of such distribution, will become necessary.

They also direct that the following state of the Funds, and a List of the Members, be printed, and a copy delivered to each Member:—

The REVENUE of the Merchants consists of Interest of Bonded Money, the Rents and Feu-duties of Wester Craigs, Saint Enoch and Broomielaw Croft, Auldhouse Feu, the Rents of their Shops in the Merchants House, and the Income arising from Matriculations and Burgess fines.

1st. The Merchants House have on Bond by the City of			
Glasgow, £13,650,	£682	10	0
The Interest of £2,172, 10s. 10d., on			
Bond by the Trustees on the			
River Clyde, the price of the			
Waterside ground,	£108	12	6
Deduct Interest of £550 of this, due			
to the Deftfield Company, the			
price of their servitude on the			
ground,	27	10	0
		81	2 6
			£763 12 6
2d. The Feus of Wester Craigs,	69	6	8
The Rent of Quarries there, per Tack,	120	0	0
3d. The Ground Annuals from St. Enoch and Broomie-			
law Croft,	28	0	0
4th. Auldhouse Feus,	37	10	0
5th. Rent of Shops in Merchants House,	76	0	0
		330	16 8
6th. The Matriculate Money, average of 3 years,	50	0	0
7th. Burgess fines, average of 3 years,	55	8	7
		105	8 7
			1,199 17 9
Money in Bank, £4,050,		44	0 0
			£1,243 17 9

Besides which some casual Revenue arises from Fines for Councillors not accepting, and from Donations; but these are so inconsiderable, and so uncertain, that no average is given of them.

The EXPENDITURE of the Merchants House consists of Pensions given to decayed Brethren, their Widows and Families, to persons on certain sums Mortified to the House, and certain casual Charities to persons connected with the Institution; the

annual Contribution to the Town's Hospital, Public Burdens, Contingent Charges, and the Salaries of the Officers of the House.

The Pensioners on the Roll, whose Pensions vary from £25 to £5 per Annum, amount at present to . . . £590 0 0

The Pensioners entitled to be enrolled on the MORTIFICATIONS are:—

Auldhouse Mortification,	£69	8	10
Govans,	31	2	2
Airds,	25	0	0
Lukes,	11	2	2
Donaldsons,	10	0	0
Peters,	8	6	8
Spreulls,	5	0	0
Grahams,	4	0	0
Molls,	3	0	0
Selkirks,	2	10	0
Thomsons and Bells,	16	13	4
	<hr/>		
		186	3 2
Town's Hospital Annual Contribution,	110	0	0
Precepts by order of the House, to certain persons connected with the Institution, and by order of the Dean of Guild,	60	0	0
Public Burdens, exclusive of Property Tax alone,	11	0	0
Contingent Charges, about	200	0	0
Salaries to Officers of the House,	106	0	0
	<hr/>		
		£1,263	3 2
Amount of Revenue,	1,243	17	9
	<hr/>		
Deficiency,	£19	5	5
	<hr/>		

Which may be supplied by Donations, and Councillors fines, and by vacant Pensions on the Mortifications.

Which Report being considered by the House, was approved of, and the same ordered to be printed.

14th October, 1812.

Mr. John More moved that the thanks of this House should be presented to the Magistrates and Town Council for the unanimous support given by them to Mr. Kirkman Finlay, a Member of this House, in his Canvass, as Member for the ensuing Parliament, for the

Glasgow district of Burroughs ; which Motion being seconded by Mr. William Jamieson, was unanimously agreed to; and the Dean of Guild was requested to communicate the sentiments of the House to the Magistrates and Council.

28th January, 1813.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting at the request of several Members, to consider of again petitioning Parliament against the Monopoly of the Trade to India and China. Resolved, That this House should Petition both Houses of Parliament, praying that no Monopoly be granted of the Trade to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope.

[The Petition was in the same terms as that approved of on 11th March, 1812.]

Resolved, That the House should Petition the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, praying that the Port of Grangemouth may be made a Port in which Colonial Produce may be Warehoused, in Bond, for Exportation.

8th June, 1813.

The House having taken into consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Corn Laws of the Kingdom, came to the following Resolutions [all of which are embodied in the following Petition]; and, inter alia, the House

Resolved, That a Petition setting forth these consequences be forthwith transmitted to Kirkman Finlay, Esquire, Member for the City of Glasgow, to be by him presented to Parliament, and that he and Lord Archibald Hamilton, the Member for the County, be requested to give it their cordial support.

The Draft of the following Petition being presented, was read over, and approved of by the House:—

That your Petitioners, who represent the Mercantile Interests of this populous Manufacturing district, which depends in a great measure for its subsistence on a supply of Grain from other Countries, have taken into consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Corn Laws of the Kingdom.

That your Petitioners cannot view, without the most serious alarm, Measures suggested by that Committee which will at once enhance the price and diminish the supply of Corn, and will, by producing an augmentation in the price of Labour, tend to exclude our Manufactures from Foreign Markets.

The baneful consequences of such exclusion, in throwing out of employment the Capital and Population of the Country, has been recently experienced over almost the whole Kingdom; and the recurrence of it is to be dreaded, from the measures now in contemplation of the Committee.

That while an increase of the Import Duties increases the price of Corn, and diminishes its supply, thereby checking Population, which must ever keep pace with the means of subsistence, it is evident that the means suggested by the Select Committee are adverse to the best principles of Political Economy.

That the effect of the Report of the Select Committee, if carried into execution, will go the length of greatly increasing the prices of all sorts of Grain—a circumstance the most alarming in this district, where the wages of the labouring class can at present barely supply a family with the necessaries of life, and which the scanty and uncertain profits of his Employer can ill afford to augment;—the most mischievous consequences are therefore to be dreaded from the prohibitory duties now intended to be imposed.

That owing to the Import Duties and the charges on Importation consequent on a state of War, the prices of all Farm produce have greatly increased, and while the same causes exist, will continue to increase the Agricultural Capital, the profits from which far exceed any other branch in the Country, and certainly require no additional encouragement.

That the solid interest of the Land Owner is best promoted by an enlightened policy, in promoting the extension of Trade and Manufactures, which, operating upon an increasing Population, must ultimately produce more beneficial effects to him than the narrow, exclusive, and short-lived benefit which his Tenantry will reap from a forced and unnatural rise in the price of his produce, which no prohibitory duties will be able to support against the want of ability in the Consumer to pay.

That since it is clear any increase in the Import Duties must enhance the price and diminish the supply of Grain, injure the sale of our Manufactures in Foreign Countries, and check the Population,

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honourable House will make no alteration upon the Corn Laws, so as to increase the Importation Duties of that commodity.

14th September, 1813.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that Mr. Hannington's Widow had resigned the charge of the Merchants Hall Clock.

The House appointed Messrs. Mitchell and Russell to take charge of the same.

28th October, 1813.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting for the purpose of considering the Heads of the proposed Bill for Building and Endowing additional Established Churches in the City of Glasgow, and augmenting the Stipends of the Ministers.

It was moved that this Meeting be adjourned for the purpose of calling a General Meeting of the Matriculated Members; which motion being seconded, was put to the vote, and negatived by a majority of twenty-four to five.

The following Resolutions were then proposed and agreed to:—

1st. That the Stipends of the Ministers of the Established Churches of this City are inadequate to their suitable support in the Rank which they hold in Society, and ought to be augmented.

2nd. That from the late increase in the Population of the City, additional accommodation in the Established Churches has become necessary, and that provision ought to be made for that purpose.

The House appointed Messrs. Daniel Mackenzie, James Stirling, James Hopkirk, Archibald Smith, David Connel, John Barclay, David Crawford, James Hill, John Wardrop, and John Downie, Mr. Mackenzie, Convener, as a Committee to examine the Bill, and to report their opinion to next Meeting.

14th December, 1813.

Mr. Daniel Mackenzie, Convener of the Committee appointed at last meeting, stated, that in consequence of the Magistrates having for the present abandoned the proposed Bill for Building and Endowing additional Established Churches in Glasgow, the Committee did not

think it necessary to make a Report of their opinion to the House upon the Heads of the Bill.

18th March, 1814.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had called this Meeting at the request of several Members, to consider a Memorial to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, praying that the Merchants of Glasgow may be enabled to secure, in Warehouses in Port-Glasgow and Greenock, the Commodities which may be now Imported into the Clyde from India.

Resolved, That a Memorial to that effect be presented to the Treasury.

The following Draft of a Memorial being presented, was read over, and approved of by the House:--

That by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, "An Act for continuing in the East India Company, for a further term, the possession of the British Territories in India, together with certain exclusive privileges, for establishing further regulations for the Government of the said Territories and the better administration of Justice within the same, and for regulating the Trade to and from the places within the limits of the said Company's Charter," it is, inter alia, provided, "That it shall not be lawful for any private person or persons to export any Goods, Wares, or Merchandize to any Port or Place within the Limits of the said Company's Charter, except in some Ship or Ships to be cleared out from some Port or Ports of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and to Import any Goods, Wares, or Merchandize from any Port or Place within the limits aforesaid, except only into such Ports of the United Kingdom as shall be provided with Warehouses, together with Wet Docks or Basins, or such other securities as shall, in the judgment of the Lord High Treasurer, or of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being, or any three or more of them, in Great Britain and Ireland respectively, be fit and proper for the deposit and safe custody of all such Goods, Wares, and Merchandize, as well as for the collection of all duties payable thereon, and shall have been declared so to be by the Order of His Majesty in Council, in Great Britain, or by the Order of the Lord Lieutenant in Council, in Ireland."

That your Memorialists, strongly impressed with a sense of the benefit which may be expected to arise to the City of Glasgow from the extension of the Commerce to those Countries, the Trade of which was formerly exclusively possessed by the East India Company, and desirous to procure such facilities for carrying it into effect as may

be consistent with the Revenue Laws of this Country, beg leave to represent to your Lordships, that the Harbour and public Warehouses of Port-Glasgow, as well as those of Greenock, afford every necessary accommodation and security for the deposit of all the Articles which are now allowed to be Imported into this Country from India, and that little or no further expense need be incurred, at either of these Ports, for Guards or protectors of the Revenue, in addition to those already appointed for this purpose.

The House unanimously agree to oppose any alterations in the Corn Laws, tending to raise the average price at which Grain may be Imported into this Kingdom, and that a Petition to this effect should be presented to Parliament, as soon as it is ascertained that any Bill for this purpose is to be brought forward, during the ensuing Session.

30th April, 1814.

Mr. Daniel MacKenzie stated that this Meeting was called to consider Petitions which it had been thought advisable to present to Parliament, against some Clauses introduced in the Bills presently depending before Parliament by the Trustees of the Shotts and Port-Dundas Roads, which are prejudicial to the Interest of this House as Proprietors of the Stone and Quarries in the Lands of Wester Craigs.

Resolved, That Petitions to both Houses of Parliament be presented, praying that this House may be heard by themselves, or their Counsel, against such Clauses.

13th September, 1814.

The Meeting having proceeded to elect a Clerk to the House, by a majority of votes elected Mr. John Douglas, Writer in Glasgow, to be Clerk till the next ordinary time of election.

10th November, 1814.

The House having been specially called to consider Resolutions in favour of Trial by Jury, in Civil Causes,

It was unanimously resolved—

1st. That Trial by Jury, in Civil Causes, would, in the opinion of this House, be a most important improvement in the administration of Justice in Scotland, and more especially advantageous to the Commercial interests of this City.

2nd. That in order, however, to render the introduction of Jury Trial beneficial to this City, as well as to the other Towns in the populous District of the Clyde, the Trials ought to take place at reasonable intervals, in the Districts where the Parties and Witnesses reside, and where Juries can be easily found, acquainted with the peculiar nature of the Causes which they may have to decide.

3rd. That this House will co-operate with other public Bodies in every proper measure for obtaining the Trial by Jury in Civil Causes, in such form as may be most convenient for the Country at large, and for this City, and the neighbouring Towns in particular; and for that purpose the House appoints the Dean of Guild, Messrs. Kirkman Finlay, John More, James Ewing, and James Oswald, as a special Committee, three to be a quorum, and the Dean of Guild Convener.

13th December, 1814.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the Motion made upon the 13th of October last, "That the Annual Meeting of the whole Matriculated Members of the House, for the election of the twenty-four Traders to compose part of the Dean of Guild's Council, should in future be held at Two o'Clock, instead of Six o'Clock Afternoon, and be notified, according to custom, to the Matriculated Members." Which Motion was unanimously passed in the affirmative; and it was ordered that an extract of this Minute be by the Dean of Guild transmitted for the consideration and approbation, in usual form, of the Magistrates and Town Council of the City.

12th December, 1815.

A Motion was made and seconded, for a grant from the funds of the House to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, which was ordered to lie on the Table till next ordinary Meeting in March next.

12th March, 1816.

It was proposed by the Dean of Guild, and unanimously agreed to, That the state of the funds be printed, together with such further information as may appear proper for the use of the Members, and that the same be prepared at the sight of the following Committee:—The Dean of Guild, Convener, and Messrs. Samuel Hunter, William Jamieson, William Aitken, with the Collector and Clerk.

The Dean of Guild then stated that it had been customary to grant Precepts in two capacities—first, in name of the House, which were recommended by the Annual Committee; and secondly, in name of the Dean of Guild, which were granted on his own authority; that he, the present Dean, had not at all exercised the power committed to him in this capacity, as he conceived it would not only relieve him from responsibility, but that it would be much more correct in disposing of the funds, that the Precept should be granted altogether by the House; and he therefore moved that it be referred to a Committee, to consider of the propriety of withdrawing, in future, the discretionary power hitherto vested with the Dean of Guild, and investing the same entirely with the House, according to the usual form of previous recommendations by the Annual Committee; which Motion having been considered, it was unanimously agreed to refer the same, for Report to the next Meeting, to the following Committee,—viz., The Dean of Guild, Convener, and Messrs. Daniel Mackenzie, John More, John Wardrop, Adam Crooks, and William Jamieson.

11th February, 1817.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that this Meeting was called, at the request of several Members, to consider of a Loyal and dutiful Address to the Prince Regent, on the occasion of the late attack on his august person, and of the best means of giving effect to the recommendation, from authority, to increase the number of Special Constables.

The following Draft of an Address was moved by the Dean of Guild, and being read over, was seconded by Kirkman Finlay, Esquire, M.P., and approved of by the House, and appointed to be subscribed by the Dean of Guild, and by him transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

To His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

May it please your Royal Highness.—We, His Majesty's most dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, sensible of the blessings of our inestimable Constitution, and grateful for the mild and auspicious sway of the House of Brunswick, humbly beg leave to approach your Royal Highness with renewed assurances of our attachment to His Majesty's Family and Government, with mingled sentiments of astonishment and abhorrence at the atrocious attack which has been lately made on your Royal person, in the exercise of your duty as Vicegerent of these Realms, with expressions of cordial satisfaction at the measures which have been adopted for the discovery of the perpetrators, with the earnest hope that detection and punishment of the Guilty will impress a salutary example, and with sincere congratulation that the base and traitorous aim has been averted, which was directed against the peace, the happiness, and the security of the Country.

The House then resolved to recommend to all persons with whom the Members had influence to enrol their Names as Special Constables.

The following Report, from the Committee of the House for improving the Property and enlarging the Income of the House, was read :—

The Committee, on full consideration, agree to Report to the House their unanimous opinion, that the purchase already made by the Sub-Committee, of certain subjects belonging to William Meikle, adjoining to the Merchants House Garden, is a beneficial investment of the funds of the House in the meantime, and ultimately will be very advantageous to the Landed Property of the House ; and farther recommend, that the House should authorize the Committee to make such farther purchases of the property

contiguous to the Garden, so as to enlarge the breadth of the Ground belonging to the House southward to the building line of Clyde street, upon such terms as may appear to be for the interest of the House.

The Committee also agreed that a Memorial should be prepared by the Clerk of the House, under the approbation of the Dean of Guild, on the subject of the remit to the Committee respecting the Contribution from the funds of the House to the Town's Hospital, and the opinion of Mr. Reddie obtained thereon, for the satisfaction of the Committee and of the House in future.

That Memorial and opinion are now herewith submitted to the House.

Memorial and Queries for the Merchants House of Glasgow, for the opinion of Counsel.

12th March, 1816.

Of this date the Merchants House appointed a Committee to enquire and Report to the House how far it was binding on the House to continue a contribution of £110 per Annum out of the Funds, which for a period of years had been paid towards the support of the Town's Hospital, it being the opinion of many Members of the House that this was merely a diminution of the Assessment for the Poor, which ought to be levied on the Public, and an improper application of the funds of the Merchants House, on which there were every year large claims which could not be complied with.

The necessary enquiries on this subject were entrusted to the Committee for improving the Property and enlarging the Income of the House, and that Committee have now to submit to Counsel the result of their investigation, and request on the whole a detailed opinion for the satisfaction of the House in future.

The following is an Abstract of the Acts of Council of the City of Glasgow respecting the Town's Hospital.

28th February, 1731.

The Council this day considering a former Act, dated 7th January last, "Anent the design of erecting a Charity Workhouse, for entertaining and employing the Poor of the City, and restraining idle begging," and that many of the Inhabitants have contributed liberally for building said House, and that it was proposed that the Magistrates and Council should contribute towards the maintenance of the Poor besides what is laid on the Inhabitants, as also the General Session, Trades House, and Merchants House: Therefore the Magistrates and Council do unanimously agree that, on erecting said House, the sum of £140 per Annum be paid by the Town Council, to be paid to the Directors in four quarterly payments.

2nd May, 1732.

It was represented that the Directors "had pitched upon the Old Green to build the said Workhouse upon, and had desired the said Magistrates to lay the same before the Council, if they would allow them to take in as much of the Ground as would serve for that purpose." The Magistrates and Council grant warrant to, and authorize the said Directors to take in a competent piece of Ground, at sight of the Magistrates, Dean of Guild, and Couvener, for erecting the said Workhouse and other Conveniences upon

that part of the Old Green, &c., to be appropriated for that use in all time coming, so long as a Workhouse and other convenience for the Poor shall be subsisted.

29th August, 1740.

On the application of the Directors, craving "the Town would allow the Hospital that piece of Ground upon the North side of the Infirmary, to be enclosed with a Stone wall, to hinder Boys and others from disturbing the people in the Infirmary," the Magistrates and Council allowed the same.

3rd January, 1744.

An Act of Council was passed of this date, called the Long Act, Erecting the Corporation and laying down general Regulations of the Hospital.

By the Long Act, 3rd January, 1744, the donations or contributions from the City of £140, the General Session, £250, Merchants House, £60, and Trades House, £120, are recited as the inductive cause of founding the Hospital, and that "any deficiencies are annually made up out of the Tax imposed upon the Inhabitants for maintaining the Poor entitled by Law," and thus the Funds of these Bodies are exempted from any other Assessment.

26th April, 1754.

The Magistrates and Council considering "that the funds of the Town's Hospital from the four Societies come far short for answering the expense, by reason of the numerous Poor maintained in the Hospital and provisions dear at the time," proposed the following additions:—£60 from the Town, £40 from the Merchants House, £50 from the Trades House, and £50 from the General Session; in all, £200, besides the Assessment on the Inhabitants, and that for the present relief and support of the Hospital, agree to the augmentation.

The Merchants House contribution to the Hospital has been increased, by £10 farther, to its present amount, in a way of which there is no trace, and of course does not throw any light on the subject under enquiry.

It may be noticed that the contribution from the Trades House, which was £170, was reduced to £120 about ten years ago, for reasons which do not appear.

Upon the whole case, the Memorialists request the Opinion of Counsel as to the legal obligation on the Merchants House to continue the said Contribution; and, for the satisfaction of the whole Members of the House, it is desirable that Counsel should state fully the grounds of the opinion.

Opinion for the Merchants House of Glasgow:—

I have considered the Memorial and Query for the Merchants House; and as the Memorial contains no quotations from the Records of the Merchants House relative to the establishment of the Town's Hospital, I take it for granted that the authentic history of the origin and foundation of that Institution is chiefly, if not entirely, derived from the Minutes of the Town Council recited or referred to in the Memorial;—and taking into view the whole circumstances attending the foundation of the Town's Hospital as narrated, though rather imperfectly, in the Council Minutes, together with the fact of the constant and regular payment of the annual Contribution made by the Merchants House, for upwards of half a Century, I cannot hold out any certain or

reasonable prospect of success in any attempt on the part of the House, in a Court of Law, to get quit entirely of this burden upon their funds.

The foundation of the Town's Hospital or Charity Workhouse appears to have been the result of a concert or agreement among four Corporate Bodies, viz., The Town Council, the Merchants House, the Trades House, and the General Sessions, and a number of Individual Burgesses and Inhabitants; and the leading particulars of the arrangement appear to have been that the Town Council should allow a part of the Old Green for the erection of the Building, that the House should be built with the sums liberally contributed by many of the Inhabitants, and that on the erection of the House the Magistrates and Council, the Merchants House, the Trades House, and the General Sessions should contribute certain Annual Sums towards the maintenance of the Poor, besides what was laid on the Inhabitants by Assessment. According to this agreement the different parties each undertook certain obligations—to give Ground, to subscribe certain principal Sums, or to make certain Annual payments; Upon the footing of this Agreement the Hospital was founded and endowed; Upon this footing the Annual payments, originally agreed upon, have been regularly made for upwards of Seventy years; And I do not see any good grounds in Law, upon which any of the parties can now retract or refuse to implement the obligations undertaken by them. The area of Ground was allowed on the faith of the Building being erected, and the Inhabitants subscribed liberally to defray the expense of the Building, on the faith of the Annual Contributions, agreed to by the Corporate Bodies, being paid in time coming; And it does not appear that, after such *rei interventus*, the Bodies Corporate are entitled to withhold the stipulated Annual Contributions, any more than the Inhabitants are entitled to recall their individual Subscriptions, or to insist that the Building shall be sold for their reimbursement. Whether the Agreement of the Merchants House to contribute an Annual sum towards the maintenance of the Poor in the Town's Hospital was a judicious or expedient measure, especially as they had particular Poor of their own to provide for, is another question, and perhaps a doubtful point. The Members of the Corporation in these days appear to have thought it expedient, and if they actually entered into the Agreement, of which there seems to be no doubt, and had the power to enter into it without encroaching upon the Mortifications or Donations to the House for special purposes, of which there seems to be a little room for doubt, I do not perceive any sufficient ground in Law upon which they can claim liberation from an arrangement, not merely tacitly acquiesced in, but expressly homologated by actual performance for such a length of time.

So much for the Annual Contribution originally agreed to. With regard to the subsequent addition to that contribution the Memorialists are rather in a more favourable situation. The augmentation seems to have been made upon an emergency, and in consequence of the dearth or high price of Provisions at the time, as well as in consequence of the increase in the number of the Poor, and so far there may be a ground for recalling the augmentation, upon showing that the prices of Provisions are comparatively low; But this preliminary point it may practically be found difficult to establish, and, after payment of the augmented contribution for such a length of time,

were the matter contested, I cannot hold out any certain prospect of a Court of Law finding the Memorialists entitled to withdraw even the Augmentation. The recent reduction of the augmented contribution by the Trades House, mentioned in the Memorial, was, I suppose, acquiesced in by all parties as a reasonable measure; and the most prudent plan for the Merchants House appears to me to be an application for a corresponding reduction upon similar grounds.

Glasgow, 3rd February, 1817.

(Signed) James Reddie.

The same Committee recommended it to the House to make an order relieving the Dean of Guild from the trouble, and delicate responsibility, of granting Precepts without the sanction of the Annual Committee.

The House resolved that it would be inexpedient to make any alteration in the present practice of contributing to the City Hospital.

The House resolved also that no alteration should be made in the practice of giving Precepts by the Dean of Guild.

The House, in conformity with the recommendation in the said Report, authorize the foresaid Committee to make such purchases of the property contiguous to the Merchants House Garden, for enlarging the property of the House, and on such terms as may appear to the Committee to be for the interest of the House.

12th March, 1817.

The Committee recommend to the House to enact, That in future the two Accounts in the Collector's Books of Precepts, by order of the House, which at present amount to twenty-three Pounds, Sterling, per annum, and the Account of Precepts by the Dean of Guild, by order of the House, amounting to forty-eight Pounds, Sterling, per Annum, be consolidated into one account, under the title of Precepts by order of the House; and that the present Precepts be gradually diminished, as circumstances shall warrant, till the Amount shall fall to fifty Pounds, Sterling, per Annum; and that the whole Account of Precepts to be thereafter granted shall not in any year exceed fifty Pounds, Sterling.

Which Report was agreed to, with the proviso that the Dean of Guild should retain the former privilege of giving Precepts for trifling sums.

1st April, 1817.

There was laid before the House a Report on the subject of the Town's Hospital, relative to a new House, of which the tenor follows:—

At a Meeting of the Directors of the Town's Hospital of Glasgow, specially convened to consider the Report of the Building Committee, relative to a new House, and held within the Hospital, on Thursday, the 6th of March, 1817.

The Report of the Committee as to the most eligible situation for a new Building was presented to the Meeting by the Dean of Guild, as Convener, which was in substance as follows :—

That the Committee did not consider it necessary to enter on the subject of the expediency and necessity of a new Erection, as the Directors had already resolved on this measure; and as, from the crowded state of the House, and the defect of ventilation, room, and cleanliness, there is at present a considerable risk of infection and disease. That the Committee had seriously considered the subject of adding to or rebuilding on the site of the present House. That as to any attempt at improving the old Building, it appeared to them inexpedient, because no part of it is so commodious as to deserve to be retained; because no annexation could be formed to harmonize with the ancient division; because it is destitute of those conveniences which the experience of modern practice has suggested; and because it would be less expensive and much more useful to erect an entirely new structure. That as to the propriety of rebuilding on the present site, the Committee were prepared to dissuade the Directors from that measure: First, because the space is so confined—neither admitting of sufficient room for walking and exercise, nor for the purpose of provision grounds, should that mode of raising vegetables at any future time be deemed expedient; Secondly, because, from the flatness of the situation and the erection of contiguous buildings, there would be a want of sufficient circulation of air; Thirdly, because the present site is subject to inundations of the River, and it would cost a considerable expense to raise the foundation above flood mark; Fourthly, because, from the increased value of property in the quarter where the Hospital now stands, it would seem to be an improvident application of resources to rebuild on the same spot, not only as double the quantity of ground could be procured in another place, at one-half of the probable price of the present, but as different situations could be secured which would be exempted from all the inconveniences of, and in every respect be preferable to, the one now existing; Lastly, because if it were resolved to rebuild in the same place, it would be extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to provide accommodation for the inmates till such time as the new House was finished. That in fulfilment of their instructions, the Committee had carefully looked round the vicinity for such a situation as they could faithfully recommend, and they mentioned in their Report various places which might have been in some respects adapted for the purpose, but either from their being without the Royalty, or from their being subject to the disadvantages of too great a distance, too high a cost, inconvenience of access, or confinement of space, the Committee could not consider them as altogether eligible. That in this state matters remained till the property, lately belonging to Mr. John Swanston, called Spring Gardens, on the North of the Royal Infirmary, was exposed in the market. That this ground having appeared to the Committee of all others most advisable, they had a conference with the Weekly Committee, who coincided with them in opinion, and a deputation was appointed to wait on the Lord Provost, who, after a

full communication, agreed to call the present Meeting of the Directors, to take the subject into consideration.

That the property in question consists of about 12,000 square yards, or about two acres; is bounded on the South by the Infirmary Garden, on the North by a small piece of ground adjoining the Monkland Canal, on the East by Vicar's Alley, and on the West by the Public road leading to the North; is completely enclosed by high substantial walls, which, in the opinion of Professional Judges, could not be built at present for less than from £1,200 to £1,500, and which would in any place be requisite for the Hospital; is laid out in a style that would at once prove useful and ornamental; is perfectly secluded, without the risk of contiguous erections; is remarkably well aired, with a warm south Exposure; is in the neighbourhood of the Canal, for the supply of Water and Coals; is close to the Infirmary, should the Medical assistance of that Institution be required; is adjoining to the High Church Yard, which would supersede the necessity of a new Burying ground; is not far from the Lunatic Asylum, which would be an accommodation for the fatuous paupers; and is possessed of sufficient space for all the present or future purposes of the Hospital. That the sum at which this Property is to be exposed by Public Sale, on the 14th instant, is £3,150; but that it may be purchased privately for £3,300.

That having thus submitted their opinion to the Directors, the Committee recommended, in the event of a resolution to purchase, that a respectful application be made to the Magistrates and Town Council of the City, requesting that they will be pleased to concur in the Disposition or Conveyance of the present ground.

That the Committee had searched into the original Records of the Hospital, and found that on the 2nd May, 1732, it was represented to the Magistrates and Council that the Directors "had pitched upon the Old Green to build said Workhouse upon, and had desired the Magistrates to lay the same before the Council, if they would allow them to take in as much of the ground as would serve for that purpose." On considering which, the Magistrates and Council "grant warrant to, and authorize the said Directors to take in a competent piece of ground, at sight of the Magistrates, Dean of Guild, and Convener, for erecting the said Workhouse and other convenience upon that part of the Old Green, &c., and to be appropriated for that use in all time coming, so long as a Workhouse and other convenience for the Poor shall be subsisted."

That on the 29th of August, 1740, on an application by the Directors to the Magistrates and Council, "craving that the town would allow the Hospital that piece of Ground upon the North side of the Infirmary, and to be enclosed with a Stone wall, to hinder Boys and others from disturbing the people in the Infirmary," the same was allowed.

That on the 3rd of January, 1744, an Act of Council was passed, commonly called the Long Act, which contains the Constitution of the Hospital, and the preamble of which narrates that, "for the advancement of Religion, Virtue, and Goodness, and the public Utility, Honour, and advantage of the Country, provision be made for the necessities of poor indigent Children, old decayed Men and Women, and of others

rendered unable to provide for themselves, and that idle, dissolute, irregular, and disorderly persons be restrained from begging, wandering and vaguing, while they might be provided for, and usefully and profitably employed, for the service of the country, towards their own maintenance, and that the Inhabitants of this City, from a voluntary Contribution among themselves, have erected a large Hospital and Workhouse, with a spacious Court about it, and a handsome well-constructed Infirmary, at a small distance from the Hospital, and all upon a plot of Ground gifted to them by the Magistrates and Town Council, most wholesome, pleasant, and commodious, on account of the good air, and being near to the River Clyde." After which follow the Laws and Regulations of management. That therefore, as there was no time, previously to the Sale of the property in question, to obtain the sanction of the Magistrates and Council, as the ground on which the Hospital stands was granted to the original Directors, for the purposes of the Institution, as it never was calculated afterwards as a part of the Town's funds, and as the City of Glasgow is in all respects connected with the Hospital as a part of the prescriptive Constitution, has always felt the warmest interest in its prosperity, and can sustain no loss by the beneficial change of its situation, and as the price to be obtained from the sale of the old Ground will be indispensably required to erect the new Establishment, the Committee entertained no doubt that the Magistrates and Council, on being satisfied as to the propriety of the measure, would forgive the premature appearance of the arrangement, on a respectful statement of the necessity of the case, and, with the same liberality which dictated the primary Grant, would consent to the conveyance of the Ground, for the purpose of erecting another House.

That after obtaining the sanction of the Magistrates and Council, should they be pleased to concur in the measure, it will be proper to submit the arrangement to the three other constituted Bodies, the Merchants House, the Trades House, and the General Session, each of whom return twelve Directors for the management; and not only as the public spirit of those Bodies is well known, but as their annual contributions will neither be increased nor diminished by the change, the Committee confidently anticipate their cordial approbation.

That, as to the name in which the Property in question should be purchased, if the Directors resolve on that measure, and in which the new establishment should be held, it appears to the Committee, that as the Directors for the time being are already constituted into a Corporation, by the terms of the Act of Council, 1744, "erecting the forty-eight Directors into a legal Society and Incorporation, by name of the Town of Glasgow's Hospital and Workhouse, with power to them to receive Subscriptions, Mortifications, and Donations, Legacies and sums of Money, Lands, Goods, and Gear;" as the said Society is appointed to take the rights and Securities of all Lands, and other subjects heritable and moveable, to be mortified, purchased, or acquired, or of Money to be lent by the Society, in the name of the Treasurer for the time being, and his successors in Office, for behoof of the said Hospital and Workhouse, who is to pursue and defend in all cases, all Actions, in the same manner as any other Corporation in the City is empowered to do; as they thus possess a *nomen juris*, under a Seal of Cause,

and a capacity to hold property, the same arrangement might so be continued, provided it meet with the approbation of the Magistrates and Council; but if any difficulty occur, it may be proper to submit the case for the opinion of the legal Assessor of the City.

Lastly, That the Committee had turned their serious attention to the ways and means for the purpose of erecting a new Hospital; that without the possession of preliminary information as to the Plans which it may be considered expedient to adopt, as to the number whom the House should be intended to accommodate, and as to the Architectural Style and interior arrangements of the Building, it is extremely difficult to form any accurate anticipation of the probable expense. But presuming that the structure should be plain, neat, and commodious, with sufficient room for the industry of those who are able to work, and for the comfort of those who are aged, desolate, impotent, and destitute, and that the number of the Inmates may be taken at about six hundred, the Committee are informed that such a Building may at present be erected for about £6,000

Add price of the Property now recommended to the Meeting, 3,300

Is 9,300

But suppose £10,000

The extent of the Ground on which the Hospital at present stands is understood to be 5,500 square yards, and the Committee trust that, with the materials, the whole should be worth £7,000

Add sum in the hands of the City, which would complete the New Establishment, 3,000

£10,000

After this Report was read to the Meeting, the Chairman desired the opinion of Mr. James Cleland, Superintendant of Public Works, and of Mr. William Rodger, Builder, whom the Committee had requested to attend, for the purpose of giving their professional advice. These Gentlemen accordingly stated that they had minutely examined the property lately belonging to Mr. Swanston, that they deemed it as in all respects the most eligible situation for a new Hospital round the City, and that, calculating on the extent of Ground, the value of the Walls, and the worth of the Materials, they considered that the purchase would be extremely moderate at the price of £3,300. The Deacon Convener, Mr. Ferrie, and others of the Directors, then stated their sentiments to the same effect, and recommended the arrangement as highly beneficial to the Community.

The Meeting having maturely deliberated on the subject, approve of the Report of the Committee, and in respect of the former Resolution on the necessity of a New Hospital, which is every day becoming more urgent; that it is extremely difficult to procure a proper situation; that the place now recommended to their attention appears to be by far the most eligible; that, although it would on every account be preferable to

obtain the previous sanction of the Magistrates and Council, yet as the property in question is to be sold immediately, so that there is no time to obtain the requisite concurrence; as they entertain every hope that they will be justified by the urgency of the case; as the purchase on the terms stated appears, in a pecuniary point of view, to be not only moderate but advantageous, and as they would have reason to regret if the opportunity which now occurred were lost, they agreed to purchase the Villa and Grounds of Spring Gardens on the lowest terms, not exceeding Three thousand Three hundred Pounds, and appointed the Preceptor, the Treasurer, the Deacon Convener, and seven other Directors, forthwith to wait on the Trustees of Mr. Swanston, and to conclude the Contract.

On the Motion of the Preceptor, seconded by Bailie Heywood, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the Meeting be given to the Dean of Guild for his able attention to the interests of the Hospital, particularly on the present occasion, which was accordingly communicated to the Dean of Guild from the Chair.

(Signed) William Leckie, Chairman.

The above Committee having met with the Trustees of Mr. Swanston, on the 6th of March, the Villa and Grounds of Spring Gardens were purchased for £3,300, Entry at Whitsunday first.

Which Report having been read and fully considered, was unanimously agreed to.

There was also laid before the House a copy of the Bill about to be brought into the Legislature for lighting the City and vicinity with Gas. The House approve of the principle of lighting the City with Gas, but without expressing any opinion as to the specific provisions of the Bill in question.

11th April, 1817.

The present Meeting is called for the special purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament in favour of the Bill now pending for making a Navigable Canal betwixt the City of Edinburgh and Falkirk.

The House resolved to Petition the Legislature for that purpose.

22nd August, 1817.

At a Meeting specially called for the purpose, the Dean of Guild presented the following Report:—

Report of the Committee of the Merchants House for improving the Property.

Referring to the Minute of the House, dated 11th February last, by which your Committee were invested with discretionary powers to complete the purchases of the Ground and Houses contiguous to your Property, on such terms as may appear to be for the interest of the House, they will now proceed to report progress.

It will be recollected, in the first instance, what the situation of your Property was, previous to any addition.

In the front of Bridgegate street, it extended 80 feet, being the length of the present building, the line on the Southern extremity was 87 feet, but owing to the alterations which had taken place, and to the formation of Clyde Street along the River, which superseded the old Narrow Lane at the bottom of the Garden, it became indispensably necessary to purchase the intervening space, so as to make Clyde Street the Southern boundary. So far back as 17th July, 1810, the House came to a resolution that it would be advisable to purchase the ground in question.

It is unnecessary to recapitulate the various communications with the Magistrates and Council on this subject. It is sufficient to state that on the 9th December, 1815, the business was ultimately concluded in a manner at once honourable to the Corporation and advantageous to this House; 657 square yards were thus obtained at the rate of two Guineas, for about one-half, and one Guinea, for the other, thus amounting in all to £1,025, 3s.

The acquisition of this ground, however, was far from rendering your Property complete. The narrowness of the extent from East to West formed such an oblong as, in the opinion of Professional Judges, prevented its beneficial disposal, being too broad for one row of houses, and too confined for two. To the East, the Garden is bounded by the Slaughter-house Lane, which precluded the possibility of any addition on that quarter, the only mode therefore of effecting the object was by purchasing on the West. About 16 to 20 feet beyond the extremity of the present building there runs a Close, parallel to the western wall, from Bridgegate to Clyde Street, and by purchasing all the intervening Property within this line, the Ground belonging to the House would be so much enlarged as to admit of two rows of tenements, with a street of 25 feet in the centre, and with the additional access of the above Close on the East, and Slaughter-house Lane on the West.

The ground in question, thus desirable in its object, was, however, very difficult to be acquired. It belonged to a great variety of persons, some of whom had an immediate, and others a remote, interest in the possessions, and the consent of all of these parties was necessary to be obtained for the purpose of forming a valid and effectual title.

It would be superfluous to detain the Meeting by an enumeration of the delays and obstacles with which your Committee had then to contend, but which they at last surmounted by the complete purchase of all the property in question, and on the very lowest terms which were found to be practicable, indeed, lower than they were advised by skilled Judges to be the real value.

A summary of the whole is as follows:—

	OLD RENTAL.	PRICE.
The Houses and Ground formerly belonging to		
William Meikle,	£34 15s.	£395
Do. Do. to Margaret M'Cosh,	30	385
Do. Do. to John Gilmour,	45	580
Do. Do. to the City of Glasgow,	14 7s.	350
	<hr/>	<hr/>
In all,	£124 2s.	1,710
Which added to the Price paid to the City for the		
Ground formerly required,		1,025
		<hr/>
Makes the Total Amount of Purchase,		£2,735
		<hr/>
The original quantity of Ground was	2,038 square yards.	
The present extent is	3,289 do.	
	<hr/>	
Making an increase of	1,251 do.	
	<hr/>	

Although it was highly eligible to acquire these old houses for the purpose of ameliorating the property, your Committee were well satisfied that it was by no means desirable to retain them with the object of permanent Revenue. The Rents, although affording nominally a considerable return, are not only difficult to collect, from the number of the Tenants, but, from their poverty, are extremely precarious; and no consideration would have induced your Committee to make such an investment but the mere view of improving your property, and bringing the whole into a saleable shape. This end being now effected, it remains to adopt the ulterior resolutions of effecting their disposal.

In deliberating on this plan, the first subject which occupied the consideration of your Committee was the propriety of retaining the present Hall. That the Merchants House of such a great Commercial City should have a place of Meeting suited to the respectability of their Corporation, there could be but one opinion. The present Building was renewed in its present form so far back as 1659, which is more than a Century and a half; and when it is considered what was the state of the City at that period—how small was the number of its population, and how restricted the extent of its Trade, compared with the present situation of the Town—it must be admitted that such an Establishment conferred the highest credit on the public spirit of the Merchants of that day, who raised the requisite funds by voluntary Subscription. A very material change, however, has since taken place. At that time the Population did not probably amount to 9,000, and there was not a single Foreign Vessel belonging to the Port. The Bridgegate, which was then the most respectable and fashionable part of the Town, has now become the residence chiefly of the inferior classes, with an awkward access, and a still more objectionable vicinity. Even in point of Economy, the rent of the Hall, estimating a fair value for the Ground retained in an unproductive state, has not for some years back been less than £150 per annum.

It has, however, been suggested to your Committee that a suitable Hall might be built on your present Property fronting Clyde Street, and they have maturely considered the proposition. The chief and radical objection still recurs—the situation. Supposing that this ground did not belong at all to the House, it is not to be presumed that they would ever think of selecting such a place. Now, the case is exactly similar, for the area is of the same value to the House for selling, as it would be for purchasing. Besides, if a part of the Property were retained for this purpose, it might materially affect the price of the remainder, as it might interfere with the plans of the Buyers.

Your Committee are clearly of opinion that a site ought to be chosen which would not only be more productive for the rent of the attached Building, but in all respects be preferable for the occupation of so respectable a body. Such a situation, your Committee are satisfied, may easily be procured in a genteel and central part of the Town; and although different situations have occurred to them, they abstain from particulars till such time as they receive instructions from the House.

It has likewise been proposed that the House should purchase the Town Hall at the Cross; but supposing every other difficulty to be removed, it is sufficient to state that the Corporation of the City have determined not to dispose of it. There can, however, exist no doubt that the application of the House for the use of that Hall, till such time as a new one be erected, will meet with that polite and immediate acquiescence which has distinguished the communications between two such Corporations.

Thus situated, your Committee were prepared to enter on the subject of the disposal of the Property in Bridgegate.

They accordingly first ordered a correct plan of the whole to be made out by Mr. Kyle, surveyor. They next directed sketches to be drawn of the mode for improving to the best account, one of which was furnished by Mr. Kyle, and the other by Mr. Shepherd.

In the third place, they put these materials into the hands of Messrs. Robert Ferrie, William Rodger, and James Carswell, three of the most able and experienced Judges in the City, and requested these Gentlemen, after minutely examining the whole property, to report their opinion. The result is now laid before the House, and is as follows:—

Glasgow, 1st August, 1817.

James Ewing, Esq., Dean of Guild.

Sir,—We, at your desire, have inspected the Merchants House property in Bridgegate Street, with the view of giving our opinion of its value, which is as follows:—

- 1st. The front to the Bridgegate, including the old Materials, for 55 feet back, we value at £5 per square yard.
- 2nd. The front to Clyde street, measuring 50 feet back, we value at £2, 2s. per square yard.
- 3rd. The remaining intermediate ground we value at £1, 5s. per square yard.

It will be necessary you send the plan to Mr. Kyle, so as to ascertain the quantity of ground in each lot, according to the Valuation.

We are, &c.,

(Signed)

Wm. Rodger, James Carswell, Robert Ferrie.

2 R

Agreeably to the recommendation of these Gentlemen, the plan was communicated to Mr. Kyle for the purpose of forming an exact mensuration and estimation of the whole. A minute description was accordingly made out, which is also laid before the House, but which it would be superfluous to transcribe. The result is as follows:—

Lot 1st., facing Bridgegate, 591.5 square yards @ £5, . . .	£2,955 11 1
„ 2nd., do. Clyde Street, 719.5 do. „ 42a. . .	1,511 1 4
„ 3rd., remaining Ground, 1,979.1 do. „ 25a. . .	2,473 17 9
<hr/>	
3,200.1	Total, £6,940 10 2
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Averaging 42a. 3d. per square yard, including the materials.

After receiving all these documents, your Committee met to consider what was the most eligible course to pursue.

The first question was the effect of a Sale on the Finances of the House, on the presumption that the above estimate could be realized. The total Value, including the old property and the recent purchases, is £6,940

And to ascertain the real accrescence of funds by a Sale, there falls to be deducted from this sum—

1st. The amount of the recent purchases,	£2,735
2nd. The principal sum of the Rental of the old property, viz:—	
4 Shops let, say at	£70
The Hall valued, if let, at	50
	<hr/>
	£120
At 10 years' purchase,	1,200
	<hr/>
	3,935

Thus making an actual increase of Capital, £3,005

In estimating the value of the old property, independently of the ground, your Committee were directed by the opinion of Mr. Clelland, who afforded them every assistance.

In another point of view, if the value of the whole be	£6,940
deduct amount of purchases,	2,735
	<hr/>
leaves	£4,205
as the price of the original property of the Merchants House.	

This sum at present yields only £76 per annum of Rent, which, from the situation of the Tenants occupying old and incommodious Shops, is not well paid, as repairs are expensive, and sequestrations more than once have become necessary.

Taking every circumstance into view, and after maturely deliberating on the subject, your Committee are unanimously of opinion that the whole property, as it now stands, should immediately be brought into the market.

There is one reservation which it is scarcely necessary to specify, and that is the Steeple, which, in every point of view, must be retained entire as an ornament to the City, with a servitude of access.

It also formed a subject of consideration whether a stipulation should be made as to the plan with a view to showing off the Spire from its base; but as the lower half consists of a naked square Tower, and as the whole elegance is confined to the upper part above the Clock, it was considered a matter of no moment, or rather that it was advisable to conceal the bottom. The only question then is, as to the height of the Tenements, and this is in some measure determined by the height of the Houses already built in Clyde Street by Mr. Park and Mr. Khull, which ought to be the maximum.

The next question which your Committee considered was the terms of disposal.

First.—They are of opinion that it ought to be exposed to public sale, by an advertisement specifying the requisite particulars; and as a part of the Building may be completed before Whitsunday, if begun soon, the day of Sale should not be at a distant period—say from fourteen days to three weeks.

Secondly.—As to the upset price, they are of opinion that it should be £7,000, which is only £60 above the estimated value. If this sum is not offered, that your Committee should be authorized to sell privately at the best price, not under the estimate of £6,940.

Thirdly.—That a loan of money should be advanced from the funds of the House, to be paid at different stages of the Buildings, as usual, and to be secured on the premises at the rate of five per cent. With respect to the amount of this advance, that it should be equivalent to the price of the property—that is, if the Sale be made at £7,000, the loan should be the same; and so on to £7,500, or any other sum: the times and terms of repayment to be a matter of stipulation in the discretion of the Committee. The amount in the hands of the City is about £12,000; and as there is, at present, no difficulty in procuring money on such security at five per cent., it will not subject the Corporation to any inconvenience, especially as the advance will be partial. There is another advantage, that if the interest fall below five per cent., this rate will be thus secured.

Fourthly.—As a still farther encouragement to Purchasers, that the price should be converted into a feu-duty, redeemable at twenty years' purchase. As Income is the great object with the House, this mode of settlement will prove no disadvantage.

Lastly.—That as the plan does not properly admit of partition, as it will save much trouble and difficulty in the disposal, and as it is of consequence to secure Builders of capital and respectability in a transaction which is to be of a permanent nature, the property should be sold in one lot. This is the decided opinion of persons conversant with the subject.

With respect to a New Hall, your Committee beg leave farther to state, that in addition to the increased Capital which will arise from the sale of the property, the Dean of Guild has reported that he has now raised above £2,000 from the admission of New Members, and hopes still to augment the number; and likewise, that every exer-

tion has been made by the Court to compel the entry of Burgesses, from which a farther sum of consequence may be expected.

Under these circumstances, your Committee are of opinion that a proper Merchants Hall may now be erected without any encroachment on the income of the House for Charitable purposes, and that, by a due attention to the mode of Building, such an Establishment may even be made a source of additional Revenue.

They therefore submit to the House that a Resolution be now passed, declaratory of the propriety of a New Hall, and that your Committee be instructed to enquire into the requisite particulars as to situation and architectural arrangements, and report their opinion to this House.

The Meeting having heard and fully considered the Report, they unanimously approve of the same, and in terms thereof authorize the same Committee to take the necessary measures for disposing of the said property by Public sale, on the 10th day of September next, at two o'Clock afternoon, within the Merchants Hall, at the upset price of £7,000, Sterling, or such convertible into a feu-duty, in terms of the Report; and in case the said property should not then be sold at that price, authorize the said Committee to sell the said property privately, but not under the sum of £6,940, 10s. 2d., the value stated in the said Report; and in either case authorize the Committee to lend, from the funds of the House, a sum equal to the price, to the purchaser, on the security of the property, to be advanced as the same shall be in their opinion properly secured by Buildings erected on the ground, and on such terms of repayment as the Committee shall judge advisable; but always under this qualification, that no material injury be done by the new Building in Bridgegate Street to the appearance of the upper part of the Steeple.

The Meeting unanimously agree to declare, in terms of the said Report, the propriety of erecting a New Merchants Hall, and instruct the said Committee to enquire and report farther to the House their opinion upon a proper situation and architectural arrangement, and other requisite particulars, for carrying into effect this resolution. The House returned thanks to the Dean of Guild and the other

members of the Committee for their attention to the interests of the House.

8th October, 1817 (forenoon).

On the motion of the Lord Provost, seconded by Kirkman Finlay, Esquire, M.P., the House unanimously

Resolved, That the thanks of this House be given to James Ewing, Esquire, for his zeal and activity while Dean of Guild, and for the indefatigable industry and unwearied attention he has bestowed in promoting the interests of this House.

And the thanks of the House having been given accordingly, the House unanimously resolved to present to Mr. Ewing a piece of Plate, value fifty Guineas, as an honorary mark of their approbation and gratitude for such valuable services.

8th October, 1817 (afternoon).

On Henry Monteith, Esquire, taking his seat as the newly-elected Dean of Guild,

On the motion of the Lord Provost, seconded by Kirkman Finlay, Esquire M.P.,

It was unanimously Resolved—

That the thanks of this House are peculiarly due to James Ewing, Esquire, the late Dean of Guild, for his eminent services during the period of his holding that Office: for his successful activity in adding to the number of the Members, and increasing the Revenue of the House; for the accurate and clear exposition of the History, Constitution, and Funds, which, with equal research and ability, he has prepared for the use of the Members; and for the punctual, laborious, and satisfactory discharge of his Judicial duties in the Dean of Guild Court; and that the Dean of Guild do now return him the thanks of this House accordingly.

9th October, 1817.

The Dean of Guild, the Lord Provost, James Ewing, John Wardrop, Daniel Mackenzie, William Jamieson, Dugald Bannatyne, Samuel Hunter, James Hill, and John Douglas, are named a Committee for carrying into effect the resolution of the House, of date the 22nd August last, relative to a New Merchants Hall.

It is resolved that a Committee be appointed for the purpose of procuring Subscriptions for the New Hall, of which Committee the Committee on the Hall above-named shall be members, with the addition of James Dennistoun, Andrew Templeton, Robert Watson, Archibald Wallace, John Thomas Alston, and John M'Call.

28th November, 1817.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that this Meeting was called to consider a Dutiful and Loyal Address to the Prince Regent, condoling with His Royal Highness on the occasion of the death of the Princess Charlotte Augusta.

The following Draft of an Address was moved by the Dean of Guild, and being read over, was seconded by Kirkman Finlay, Esquire, M.P., and approved of by the House, and appointed to be subscribed by the Dean of Guild, and by him transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

To His Royal Highness The Prince Regent.

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave to approach your Royal Highness, and to mingle with the general grief on the late awful and melancholy event, which has so deeply agitated the bosoms, and affected the hearts, of your Royal Family and the British Empire.

We sympathize with your Royal Highness on the untimely loss of all that is lovely, and amiable, and engaging to a tender Parent. We sympathize with His Serene Highness The Prince Leopold in that sorrow which admits of no sublunary cure. We sympathize with the Nation at large on the sudden and eventful stroke which has disappointed the dearest wishes and blighted the fairest promises for the peace, the happiness, and the greatness of the Country.

If there can be any consolation to your Royal Highness, if there can be any alle-

violation to the British Nation for this irreparable loss, it will be in that universal burst of Loyalty and Lamentation which has identified your sufferings with our own, and which evinces the stability of the Throne in the hearts of the People, and in the recollection of the virtues which endowed, the graces which adorned, and the accomplishments which ennobled the elevated character of the Princess Charlotte Augusta, and which, now that their splendour is set, must ever continue to shed a benignant though melancholy lustre over an admiring and deploring Country.

1st May, 1818.

The Dean of Guild, as Convener from the Committee appointed at the last Meeting of the House, read the following Draft of a Petition by the House against the Bill, now pending in Parliament, for the erection of district Asylums in Scotland for the care and confinement of Lunatics :—

That the Bill now pending in your Honourable House, entitled, “ A Bill for the erection of district Asylums in Scotland for the care and confinement of Lunatics,” appears to your Petitioners to be at once objectionable in its grounds, its principle, and operation.

That it is objectionable in its grounds, as it does not proceed on a previous and due discrimination between cases of harmless and dangerous insanity in the respective districts.

That it is objectionable in its principle, as it proposes an innovation in the law and practice of Scotland, with respect to the management of the Poor, which is expensive, unconstitutional, and inexpedient.

That it is objectionable in its operation, as it applies a general remedy for a presumed evil, without the requisite investigation into particular circumstances, and as it recognizes, with respect to two Counties, a right of exemption from the projected burden, to which this City, from the Institutions already formed, both for the reception and recovery of Lunatic Paupers, is peculiarly entitled.

May it therefore please your Honourable House that the Bill do not pass into a Law.

10th July, 1818.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had been called upon by a Deputation from the Trades House of Glasgow, requesting him to lay before this House a proposition on their behalf respecting an alteration in the mode of electing the Deacon Convener of the Trades House, in order to have the concurrence of the Merchants House.

After some discussion the proposition was withdrawn, as being unauthorized and informal.

The Dean of Guild then laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the Town's Hospital:—

Glasgow Town's Hospital, 23rd April, 1818.

The Directors being met,—That this Hospital do consider, that in consequence of the Annual Grant of £1,500 being withdrawn from the Session, and of the propriety of their being enabled, as far as possible, to support their own Poor, and as in point of fact the contribution of £300 from the Session for the support of the Hospital has not for a long time past been paid, it is expedient that the same should be discontinued, and that a communication be made to the other three public Bodies—viz., the Magistrates and Council, the Merchants House, and the Trades House—requesting their assent to this arrangement, and to pass an Act accordingly.

The House having considered the foregoing communication, unanimously assent to the proposed arrangement, and do pass an Act accordingly.

The Committee on Craigs Park and the Quarries submitted a Report to the House, which was read:—

The Committee appointed by the said House for making effectual the Rents and Maills of the Whinstone Quarries of Wester Craigs, humbly report, That your Committee having examined the Title deeds of the House, they find that the right of the House to the Lands of Wester Craigs, in the Barony Parish of Glasgow, is constituted by a Charter under the Great Seal proceeding on the Resignation of Stewart of Minto, and dated the 1st of March, 1650, whereon the House is duly infeft. The House some time ago sold or feued off these lands to different persons, but under reservation of the Rock therein, which, from its superior quality and vicinity to the City, appears always to have been of considerable estimation. Most of the Proprietors of the Lands, either by their Title deeds or by some other prescriptive title, however, have acquired right to quarry the Rock for their own use, and without paying any Quarry Maill or Price for the metal taken away. A similar privilege has been attempted to be made effectual—

- 1st. By the City of Glasgow or their Committee of Statute Labour, and
- 2nd. By the Trustees on several Roads in the neighbourhood of Glasgow.

With regard to these Claims, it is now the duty of your Committee to report progress, and to solicit farther instructions.

1st. As to the claims of the City. It appears that in the year 1788 the Collector of the House made a demand for Lordship against the City, in consequence of which the right of the Town underwent considerable discussion; but it is only necessary here to mention that the result was that the House admitted the City to have acquired a

prescriptive right, as infest in the pound Land of Glasgow, being the Ancient Royalty, to quarry Stones for the Streets thereof. Since that time, however, the City have purchased other Lands, and obtained an Act extending the Royalty over these also.

This Act, however, in the opinion of your Committee, cannot extend the privilege of the City to quarry for the Streets in the extended Royalty also from the private property of the House, the more especially as their right of servitude, as well as the terms of the Act, in a question of this kind, must suffer a strict interpretation. Nevertheless, the City have been in use of taking the Metal for the purposes of the extended Royalty also; and as the Committee have been unable to discover any right whatsoever on their part to do so, while the value of the Metal is considerable, they are humbly of opinion that they ought to be interdicted, at least before they shall be entitled to plead a prescriptive right, also under the new Royalty Act, which would place them in a materially different situation.

The Committee beg leave to call the serious and early attention of the House, therefore, to this subject, and that the House should direct such steps to be taken, or further investigation, if necessary, to be made without delay, as may prevent the acquisition of so material a servitude on their property. The Committee have in the meantime directed a preliminary letter to be written to the Committee on the Statute Labour of the City on the subject, and proposed a meeting betwixt both Committees; but the meeting has not yet taken place.

The Superintendent of the City Statute Labour has, in reply, written a Report to his Constituents, a copy of which is now laid before the House, with a few remarks by your Committee. It is enough here to state that the facts stated in the Superintendent's Report do not in any way prejudice what they conceive to be the existing rights of the House.

2nd. The Committee have minutely considered the terms of the various Acts of Parliament of the Trustees of all the different Roads leading into or about Glasgow; and although it has been pretty generally believed by the Trustees that they enjoyed the right of taking Metal free of Lordship, on paying surface damage only, yet the Committee are humbly confident that they do not lawfully possess any such right over the Quarries of the House.

The Abstract or Memoranda made by the Committee from these Acts, which are too voluminous to be here quoted, are now laid before the House, and reference to these will justify the opinion of the Committee; but in any case where the terms of the Act may be thought ambiguous, it will be observed that the House as Proprietor is entitled to the most favourable construction; at least, so the Court of Session found in a plea between certain parties relating to the powers of the Trustees under one of the very Acts in question. This decision being very briefly reported, the Committee think it not unimportant to quote it here. It is as follows:—

“ Question under the Turnpike Act for repairing the Roads leading to Glasgow—Turnpike Acts strictly interpreted—The Trustees quarried Stones from the grounds of the adjacent farm of Lord Eglintoun. The Sheriff found that they had sufficient power by implication from the terms of the Statute. It was urged for his Lordship, the

Complainer, in the Court of Session, that all Laws which authorize encroachment on private property must be strictly interpreted, and as the Statute does not, *per expressum*, warrant any such procedure as that complained against, it is therefore illegal and oppressive. The Trustees may, if they please, purchase the Stones, but they cannot take them at their own hand; and the Lords passed the Bill August 8th, 1776. Earl of Eglintoun and Govan, *contra* Craig. Dic. Vol. IV., p. 202."

The Committee, some time ago, effected a Submission between the House and the Trustees of the Shotts and Airdrie Road, relative to the terms on which these Trustees were entitled to take Metal from the Quarry, and they have the satisfaction of adding that the claims of the House to a Lordship have been fully sustained; but the quantum due by the Trustees has not yet been ascertained.

They have also, in the case of three different Acts which have been applied for in Parliament recently, insisted on the Trustees inserting a clause, not only putting the rights of the House to a Lordship beyond the possibility of cavil, but providing a speedy and advantageous manner of settling the amount of that Lordship, where the charges of the House shall be disputed, and they have here also the satisfaction of adding that their claims have been acknowledged as founded in justice and equity.

The Committee, however, regret to say that the Revenues of the Quarry have of late years been considerably less than formerly, while they were inclined to suspect that the depreciation had taken place through some impropriety, rather than in any decline in the value of the material. They have always been in use of advertising the Quarry, yearly, for a Roup at an Annual sum of Rent, and the Tenant was taken bound to sell at stated prices only.

It occurred to your Committee, therefore, that the real value of the Quarry would be ascertained, and the Revenues would be increased, by a greater competition for the Lease, if the Tenant, instead of being bound to pay a dead Rent on whatever quantity of Metal was put out, were to pay a Lordship on the actual out-put only, and were allowed to sell at such prices as he thought proper. Accordingly the Committee advertised the Lease of the Quarry as usual, for private jobs only, for one year, at very low upset prices, in order to induce offers, but with a dead Rent of £30 in the option of the House, in order to guard against a loss on the Wages of a Superintendent whom it was thus necessary to employ. After a considerable competition, the Quarry was let at the following Lordships:—viz., for each Cart of 24 cwts. of causeway or principal Stones, thirteen pence, and for each do. of other Stones or broken Metal, one shilling.

The result has otherwise been very favourable to the House, as the Tenants are putting out on an average 26 carts per day, and there is every reason to expect that their sales will continue equally brisk.

By this mode of Letting the Quarry the Committee have also acquired the best information and means of establishing the rate that should be claimed from the Road Trustees who use the Quarry. As all Trustees employ their own quarriers, it was formerly impossible to state what sum should be paid by them for the Lordship only, even although the quantity of Metal taken were known. At the same time, therefore, that the Committee advertised the Roup of the Quarry, they advertised that a check

would be required for every cart load that was carried away by the Trustees, which would found a charge against them for a Lordship similar to that paid by the Tenant, unless a special agreement to the contrary was made between them and the House; and in so doing they conceived they were in no way exceeding their power.

The result here had also been favourable to the House; for at a late Meeting of the Committee they agreed with the Trustees on the Shotts Road, the Muirkirk Road, and the Gorbals Road, for a lease of the Metal upon payment of a Lordship of 4d. per Cart on Stones of every description.

The Committee agreed that these Trustees should have this lease during the present year only, but that they would recommend to the House to grant it on the same terms during the continuance of the present Acts of the different Trusts; their reason for so doing at that Lordship of 4d., while the Tenant pays 1/ or 1/1d., is, that hitherto it has been difficult to make anything effectual from these Trustees at all, owing to there being no specific agreement between the parties; and secondly and chiefly, because these Trustees being entitled to take Metal from any place that is not wrought as a sale Quarry, on paying surface damages only, they are obviously entitled to much better terms than those who have no such privilege.

The Committee, therefore, having reason to suppose that the Trustees could be as well supplied by breaking ground and forming a Quarry for themselves in another quarter, and that the Metal so taken would not cost them above 4d. per Cart, they conceive it obviously for the advantage of the House to contract with them at that rate. It may perhaps be necessary for the Committee to inform the House that the agreement both with the Tenant and with the Trustees is, that over and above the Lordship the House are to be relieved of the surface damages, payable to the Feuars in the Lands, for damages done to their property.

The Committee having given this short account of their proceedings hitherto, have now only to request the special instructions of the House in regard to the rights claimed by the Town, and by such of the Road Trustees as have not yet agreed to pay the Lordship, and also in regard to the lease proposed to be granted to the others.

The House agreed to the recommendation of the Committee to enter into a Tack, with each set of Trustees, of the Metal required by them from the Quarries of the House, at the Lordship of 4d. per Cart, during the period of seven years, and to enter into submissions with the Trustees of the City Statute Labour, and with the Shotts Trustees, or other parties, of any other points in dispute betwixt them and the House.

8th December, 1818.

A Motion was made by Mr. Robert Thomson, that a Report should be made to the House by the Dean of Guild, and the Collector, and

Clerk, on the point how far residence without the Burgh affects the rights of the Members of this House, and their eligibility to office. This Report was accordingly ordered to be made.

The Dean of Guild moved the following Loyal and Dutiful Address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the death of the Queen:—

To His Royal Highness The Prince Regent.

We, His Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave respectfully to approach your Royal Highness with the expression of our sincere condolence upon the death of Her most excellent Majesty Queen Charlotte.

We have to testify the deep sense which we entertain of the heavy loss the Nation has sustained by the Removal of a Queen, who, through a long and trying period of fifty-seven years, has graced the British Throne by her many public and domestic virtues.

May the knowledge of her worth form to your Royal Highness a sure source of consolation, and consecrate Her Memory to the British people.

Which address having been read and considered, was unanimously adopted and appointed to be signed by the Dean of Guild, and by him transmitted to Lord Sidmouth, the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

9th March, 1819.

The Dean of Guild reported that the Magistrates and Council had declined to take any remuneration for the Town Hall, and had signified their consent to allow the House the use of the Hall for their Meetings.

Thereafter, on the Motion of the Dean of Guild, the House named a new Committee, consisting of the Dean of Guild, and Messrs. James Oswald, Adam Crooks, and Daniel Mackenzie, the Dean of Guild being Convener, with instructions to enquire and Report to the House the proportion of the Stock and Funds of the House which ought to be set aside, and to accumulate towards the expense of a New Merchants Hall.

The Dean of Guild then moved Resolutions against the proposed tax upon Coals, to be levied at the Pit; which, having been discussed, were unanimously agreed to, and the Dean of Guild instructed to

forward Petitions to the Legislature, founded on the said Resolutions, of which the tenor follows:—

The House having taken into consideration the proposed tax on Coal at the Pit mouth, unanimously Resolved—

That this House consider there is just cause of alarm, from the attempts recently set on foot to influence Parliament to convert the present tax on Sea-borne Coal into a general duty on Coal at the Pit's mouth, throughout the Kingdom.

That it is the abundance and moderate price of Coal to which the City of Glasgow and surrounding district have been chiefly indebted for the establishment of so many branches of manufacture; and that even a very small tax upon an article of which the consumption is so great, both for the purposes of machinery and among the Labourers employed, would be very sensibly felt at present, and might be gradually rendered more intolerable, were the principle once admitted of taxing so important a necessary of life.

That to the labouring classes of this Country a tax upon Fuel would be felt quite as severely as one upon Provisions, which every wise Legislator would at once reject as equally oppressive and impolitic.

That for these reasons this House will adopt every constitutional means of resistance, should the projectors of the measure succeed in introducing a Bill into Parliament for so impolitic an object; and they authorize the Dean of Guild to forward Petitions, founded on these Resolutions, to his Grace the Duke of Montrose, and to Alexander Houstoun, the Member of Parliament for this district of Burghs, to be presented to both Houses of Parliament.

The House resolved to take the opinion of Counsel on the subject of Mr. Thomson's motion, relative to the effect of the residence of a Member of the House out of the Burgh upon his eligibility to Office, and that the Committee to which the matter was formerly remitted do prepare such Memorial, and obtain the opinion of Mr. Reddie thereon.

8th June, 1819.

The Dean of Guild laid before the House an extract of a **Minute** of the Town Council of Glasgow, of which the tenor follows:—

At Glasgow, the 27th day of May, 1819 years.

The Magistrates and Council being in Council assembled, there was produced the following Memorial from the Trades House (here Memorial of date the 21st instant is inserted in Minutes), which Memorial having been read and taken into consideration, the Magistrates and Council are of opinion that different parts of the Constitution of the Corporation of the City are susceptible of improvement; and being at the same time of opinion that the Constitution of the Merchants House, and the Constitution of the Trades House and Incorporated Trades, may likewise be materially improved in several particulars, and that such improvements ought to precede, or form part of any arrangement by which the power of electing the Members of the Town Council may be vested in these Bodies Corporate,—

Resolve, To appoint a Committee to hold a conference on the subject with the Committees who may be named by the Merchants and Trades Houses.

Resolve, To concur with these Bodies in an Application to Parliament for carrying into effect such reasonable and moderate alterations in the Constitution and Government of the City as may appear, after due deliberation, to be conducive to the public welfare, and direct an Extract of this Act of Council to be transmitted to the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener.

The House having deliberately considered the foregoing Minute, they approve of the object thereof, and appoint the Dean of Guild, and Messrs. James Ewing, Daniel Mackenzie, John Wardrop, and James Oswald, as a Committee on the part of this House, to co-operate with the other Committees appointed, or who may be appointed, for the same purpose.

14th October, 1819.

Laurence Hill is elected Collector of the House for the year ensuing.

11th January, 1820.

The Provost moved, and Mr. Daniel M'Kenzie seconded the motion, that Two Hundred Pounds, Sterling, be given from the funds of this

House in aid of the Subscription fund for the relief of the present distresses of the Labouring Classes,—which was carried unanimously.

18th February, 1820.

At a Meeting specially called for the purpose of taking into consideration a Loyal and Dutiful Address to His Majesty, on the occasion of the death of His late Majesty King George the Third.

The Dean of Guild moved that the following Loyal and Dutiful Address should be adopted by the House:—

Unto the King's most Excellent Majesty; May it please your Majesty,—

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave humbly to approach the Throne with the expression of our condolence under your recent family affliction, and of our anxious desire that your health may be speedily re-established, and that your life may be long preserved as a blessing to your People.

It may afford consolation to your Majesty, in mourning the loss of so excellent a Father as our late august Sovereign George the Third, that from him, by a mysterious Providence, the enjoyments of this World were long excluded: and that while his Memory must ever live in the hearts of his Subjects, from the mild and paternal sway with which he, for so great a length of time, ruled over them, and be handed down to future Generations as a bright example of a Patriot King, the eminent Piety and exemplary virtues, public and domestic, which adorned his Character through a long and eventful Reign, afford the surest grounds of trust that he has exchanged an Earthly for a Heavenly Crown, which shall not perish.

While we deeply deplore the bereavements with which it has pleased the Supreme Disposer of Events of late to visit your Royal House, we feel comfort in the reflection that from our experience in the wisdom, energy, and success of your Majesty's Government during the period in which you exercised it in the name of your late Father, we have much ground to hope that, by adherence to the same principles, your Reign may be equally prosperous, and that the high rank of the British name may be as successfully maintained.

We congratulate your Majesty upon the profound Peace which these Kingdoms enjoy, and upon the fair prospect of its duration, upon the indications of the returning prospects of Commerce and Manufactures, which had been for a season obscured, and upon the wise spirit which is regaining its ascendancy among those of our Population whose sufferings and ignorance were laid hold of by wicked and factious demagogues to seduce them from allegiance and duty.

We beg to renew our assurances of Loyalty towards your Majesty, and our earnest prayer that your Reign may be long, prosperous, and happy.

Which being read and considered, was unanimously agreed to, and directed to be subscribed by the Dean of Guild, and forwarded to Lord Sidmouth, the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

1st August, 1820.

At a Meeting specially called for the purpose of nominating two Commissioners for carrying into effect the Act of Parliament passed in the present Session "for erecting a Bridewell for the County of Lanark and City of Glasgow,"

The House, in terms of the said Act, nominated, and hereby do nominate, the Dean of Guild and J. T. Alston as Commissioners for the purposes of said Act, with this express proviso, that such appointment shall not by possibility implicate the funds of the House; and in respect that the Bill had only been this day laid before the House, it was resolved to appoint a Committee, consisting of the Dean of Guild, Mr. Ewing, and the Collector, for the purpose of considering and reporting in writing, to a pro re nata Meeting of the House, their opinion, whether or not the Commissioners under the Act might have power to implicate the funds of the House, and that till such Report be received and disposed of, the Commissioners now appointed shall not have power to act.

It was also moved and seconded, That the Clerk take down in the Sederunts the names of the whole Members present, from which he shall prepare an Annual Report of the names of the Members who have been absent, and the number of times of such absence during the preceding year, which Report shall be laid before the House at the Annual Meeting, for making up the leets for the election of the Dean of Guild.

17th August, 1820.

At a Meeting specially called for the purpose of taking into consideration a Report from the Committee on the new Bridewell Act, and

to consider the Motion for making absences of the Members from Meetings of the House,

The Dean of Guild presented a Report, of which the tenor follows :—

Report of the Committee appointed by the Merchants House, on the 1st August last, to consider whether, by nominating and appointing two Commissioners under an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, “An Act for erecting a Bridewell for the County of Lanark and City of Glasgow,” the funds of the House can in any respect be implicated or affected. Your Committee have attentively perused the clauses of the above Act which bear upon the point submitted to their judgment.

The number of Commissioners for executing the purposes of the Act is 33; of these, 11 are named *ex officio*, and 22 are elected,—viz, 17 by the County and 5 by the City. Five constitute a quorum, “having full powers at any general Meeting to do, order, and transact all matters and things.”

The whole funds and property of every description are vested in the Commissioners for the purposes of the Act. “And, for raising the money necessary for erecting the said Bridewell and House of Correction, it is enacted that the said Commissioners shall be empowered, and they are hereby empowered and authorized, to raise a Sum not exceeding £30,000, in the manner and proportions herein-after recited.” Of this Sum, £20,500 is to be levied on Lands, Tenements, and Heritages in the County, and the remaining £9,500 is to be raised on Heritable property in the City.

So much for the cost of erecting the Establishment; and with respect to the Annual expense of maintenance, the deficiency, after crediting the Account with the produce of the labour, is to be supplied by a contribution from the Lands to the extent of 18s. in the £100, Scots, of valued Rent, and from Houses to the extent of 6d. in the Pound of Assessed Rent.

The Commissioners are authorized to borrow to the amount of £30,000, and to grant security over their Funds and Property; “and in the case of borrowing on their own personal Security, they shall have security and relief for repayment of the amount so borrowed, not exceeding the sum above levied, upon the said Funds, Property, and Assessments.”

Such is an Abstract of the pecuniary provisions of this Act; and from the recital it appears obvious to your Committee that, in exercising the privilege granted to the Merchants House of electing two Commissioners, no responsibility or risk can, either directly or constructively, be incurred by the House; For, in the first place, the cost of the Erection is restricted to the sum of £30,000, to which extent the Commissioners are unquestionably safe in borrowing, and beyond which they are positively prohibited from proceeding.

There cannot exist a doubt that this sum will be more than sufficient to provide ample accommodation for the existing wants of the County and City; and should a future

enlargement become requisite, another Act of Parliament must be obtained to supply the means.

In the second place, if the same strict economy and judicious management be pursued in the new Establishment as are at present observed in the City Bridewell, there is every expectation that the industry of the inmates will go far to liquidate the expense of their maintenance.

The introduction of recent improvements, from the extended accommodation of the new House, should also contribute much to facilitate this important object. But even supposing that these hopes were disappointed, the Act provides a complete safeguard by authorizing an Annual Assessment, to an extent which has been estimated at far more than the deficiency can by any possibility be anticipated to reach.

In the third place, even admitting that the Commissioners under this Act were to exceed their powers by incurring debt beyond the limits to which their Security is legally applicable, or that they were to interpose their personal credit on the faith of Assets which might ultimately prove inadequate to their repayment (and both assumptions are extremely hypothetical), then these Gentlemen must proceed on their own responsibility, and sustain the consequences of their own conduct; or, if they were entitled to relief at all, it must be claimed, not from the Bodies by whom they were appointed, but from the County and City, for whose benefit they acted.

It may be added, that although it seems to be the intention of the Act that the two Commissioners whom this House, as representing the mercantile interest, are to elect should be Members of their own Body, yet there is nothing in the clause to render that imperative.

Your Committee have been thus minute for the purpose of satisfying the laudable scruples of vigilant Members. As to your Committee, they certainly never could permit themselves to entertain a doubt on the subject. It is well known that similar elective powers are exercised every year, and that Representatives are returned for the Infirmary, the Lunatic Asylum, the Lock Hospital, and other Institutions; but your Committee never heard a suspicion that the interests of the Merchants House could thus in the smallest degree be identified with those of such Establishments, or that, by such power of delegation, any possible claim of recourse could be instituted for the engagements of the Directors; nor has it ever been suggested that any liability for the Acts of the Town Council can be sustained by this House in consequence of the part which they take in the election of a Dean of Guild. The Act appears to be purely ministerial, and to be simply confined to the nomination of Managers who, from the moment of their appointment, are merely to be considered as constituent portions of the Body to which they are elected. It is of importance to recognize this principle, as the same case will soon again occur, when the Merchants House will be called on to choose a certain number of Members for the Board of Statute Labour in the City.

Which Report having been read, it was unanimously approved of, and appointed to be engrossed. And it was resolved that the Dean of Guild and John Thomas Alston, the Commissioners appointed at

the Meeting of the House on the 1st current, for the purposes of the Bridewell Act, be authorized immediately to act under the former appointment.

The Motion made at last Meeting for entering in the Sederunts the list of Members present, and Reporting to the House a list of the absences of Members, was unanimously agreed to.

On the Dean of Guild's Motion, the House unanimously voted thanks to Mr. James Cleland for his laborious and valuable services in drawing up the Abstract of the Population of the City and Suburbs,—a copy of which he had presented to the House.

12th October, 1820.

Messrs. Daniel Mackenzie, William Jamieson, Robert Douglas Alston, and William Dalglish, are named, on the part of the House, Trustees of the Statute Labour for the City of Glasgow.

26th December, 1820.

At a Meeting, specially called to consider a Loyal and Dutiful Address to His Majesty, the Dean of Guild proposed the following Draft of an Address :—

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, approach the Throne with renewed expressions of loyal and respectful attachment to your Majesty's person and government.

Unwilling as we are to interfere with your Majesty's undoubted prerogative of appointing the Servants of the Crown, yet, in the present circumstances of the Country, we feel it our duty to declare, after reviewing the history of Europe from the commencement of the French Revolution, that, in our opinion, the general course of policy pursued by your Majesty's Ministers has contributed to maintain the honour, to advance the character, and to promote the prosperity of the Country, and therefore that they are entitled to our confidence, and to that of the Nation at large.

We observe with deep concern the daily attempts making by factious and designing men to seduce your Majesty's subjects from their allegiance, and by the degradation and abuse of one of our highest privileges—the liberty of the Press—to instil into their minds principles leading not only to discontent, but even to insubordination and rebellion.

We therefore feel ourselves called upon to express to your Majesty our determined resolution to oppose and discountenance such wicked practices, by the exertion of our influence to support the just prerogatives of the Crown, as well as the lawful rights of the people, and to preserve to our children the inestimable advantages we and our fathers have enjoyed under the auspicious sway of the Princes of the House of Brunswick.

Which having been read and considered, was unanimously approved of, and directed to be subscribed by the Dean of Guild, and forwarded to Lord Sidmouth, the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

22nd March, 1821.

At a Meeting specially called to receive the Report of the Committee appointed at last Meeting on the subject of the Police Bill for the City, the following Report was presented :—

To the Honourable the Dean of Guild of Glasgow.

Glasgow, 16th March, 1821. .

Sir,—In obedience to the commands of the Merchants House, We, their Committee (with the exception of Mr. Stirling, who is out of Town), appointed to consider and report “on the heads of the new Police Bill,” met this day, and have now to report—

That they unanimously do approve of the said Bill in every respect, as it now stands, excepting the Clauses regarding the laying and maintaining the foot pavements.

But a majority of this Committee are of opinion the clauses respecting the foot pavements ought to be left out, and steps taken as speedily as possible to put that expense on the funds of the Statute Labour.

The Lord Provost moved that the Report be approved of, with the exception of the words following, viz., “excepting the clauses regarding the laying and maintaining the foot pavements. But a majority of this Committee are of opinion the clauses respecting the foot pavements ought to be left out, and steps taken as speedily as possible to put that expense on the funds of the Statute Labour.”

Mr. Hunter moved, as amendment, That the foot pavements be made by the Proprietors and maintained by the Public ; which amendment was negatived, and the Motion of the Lord Provost was afterwards carried in the affirmative.



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GUILDRY COURT, FROM THE SOUTH.

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MacGill & Macdonald Ltd.

GUILDHALL COURT, FROM THE SOUTH.

12th June, 1821.

There was read by the Dean of Guild a Minute of the Town Council of Glasgow on the subject of an Exchange.

On the motion of the Dean of Guild, the House unanimously resolved to appoint a Committee to meet and co-operate with other Public Bodies and Individuals on the subject of a new Public Exchange for the City of Glasgow, as proposed at a Public Meeting held in this City on the 7th current, which Committee shall consist of the Dean of Guild, and Archibald Wallace, James Oswald, William Jamieson, and Robert Douglas Alston, the Dean of Guild, Convener.

Mr. Daniel M'Kenzie, Convener of the Committee on the subject of the Bridgegate Clock, made a verbal report; and the same Committee was then authorized to put a new Clock into the Bridgegate Steeple at the expense of this House, and to arrange that the House shall then convey the Steeple to the Town of Glasgow, on condition of the Town keeping up the Steeple and Clock in all time coming.

11th September, 1821.

There was read to the Meeting a Circular Letter from the Dean of Guild of the Burgh of Cupar-Fife, requesting pecuniary assistance from the funds of the Guildries in Scotland, for the purpose of defraying the expense of a Cause, about to be tried in the Court of Session, declaring that persons not entered as Brethren of the Merchant Guild have no right to open Shop within Burgh, for the sale of Articles of Foreign Manufacture; and the Meeting having considered the same, and the copy of the Summons of Declarator which it enclosed, instructed the Dean of Guild to return for answer, that the funds of this Corporation being applicable to Charitable purposes, the Meeting are not of opinion that it would be proper for them to make any application thereof to the purposes required by the said Circular.

2nd August, 1822.

At a Meeting specially called to consider a Loyal and Dutiful Address to His Majesty on the occasion of his visit to Scotland, the Dean of Guild moved, and the House unanimously resolved, that there should be a Committee appointed, with power to draw up and present an Address to His Majesty on his arrival in Scotland; And that the Dean of Guild, Messrs. Kirkman Finlay, Charles Stirling, James Ewing, and Robert Findlay be that Committee, and that this House authorize the Committee to draw from the funds of the House a sum not exceeding Three Hundred Pounds towards defraying the expense of the Deputation, it being understood that any other Member of the House that chooses may join the Deputation.

10th September, 1822.

The Dean of Guild reported to the House that he and the rest of the Deputation of the House had, at the Levee, presented to His Majesty the following Address, which had been most graciously received.

The House resolved that the Address be engrossed on the Records of the House; the tenor of which follows:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, The Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, gladly hasten to offer to your Majesty, in whose august person we recognize the lineal Descendant of our Native Princes, our most respectful, dutiful, and cordial congratulations on your Majesty's arrival in your Ancient Kingdom of Scotland; and we unite with all classes of our fellow-subjects in the expression of the patriotic ardour and of the loyal enthusiasm with which we hail this auspicious event.

Remembering, with the liveliest emotions of gratitude, that the Sovereigns of your illustrious House have ever stood forth the firm supporters of that admirable system of equal Law and National Liberty, by which the prosperity of this Nation has been so eminently advanced under their mild and equitable sway, we beg, on this joyful occasion, to renew the assurance of our devoted attachment to your Royal person and august Family, and humbly pray Almighty God that your Majesty may long be preserved the beloved and honoured Sovereign of a people distinguished for Loyalty, Happiness, and Freedom.

(Signed) William Smith, Dean of Gild.

The Dean of Guild presented the following Report on the subject of the Elections of the Directors and Office-bearers of the House:—

At a Meeting of the Committee appointed by the Meeting of the 11th December last,

The Committee recommended, with a view of meeting the wishes of the Matriculated Members as far as consistent with the existing Constitution of the House, that a copy of the Leets, to be proposed by the Dean of Guild, be deposited in the hands of the Clerk, eight days previous to the Election, to be open to the inspection of the Matriculated Members, and that the Lists be previously corrected by striking off the names of deceased persons.

The Committee also recommend, as a future Regulation, that the Collector, Clerk, and Officer of the previous year should not be present during the Election to these offices.

Which Report was unanimously approved of.

On the motion of the Dean of Guild the House agreed to offer £50 a year for the use of the Town Hall.

10th December, 1822.

The Dean of Guild produced a Letter of the following tenor:—

Glasgow, 18th November, 1822.

To the Dean of Guild and the other Members of the Deputation who went to the Palace of Holyrood, and presented an Address from the Merchants House of Glasgow to His Majesty King George IV.

Gentlemen,—I beg leave to acquaint you, for the information of the Merchants House, that the Deputations from the Magistrates and Council and the Merchants and Trades Houses requested me to take charge of their pecuniary affairs and other matters connected with their residence in Edinburgh.

Having accepted the trust, I endeavoured by every means in my power to conduct the whole in a manner suited to the occasion and the respectability of the Bodies interested, and have now the satisfaction of informing you that, assisted by a Sub-Committee from the three Deputations, viz,

Bailie Craigie from the Magistrates and Council,
Mr. Robert Findlay from the Merchants House, and
Mr. Robert Hood from the Trades House,

I have been enabled to settle all the Accounts on such terms as to require only the sum of Two Hundred Guineas from the Merchants House, a similar sum from the Trades House, and One Thousand Pounds from the Magistrates and Council.

As the latter Body is to retain the Servants' liveries, &c., the Sub-Committee are of opinion that the above division of the sums subscribed is just and equitable.

I am, &c. (Signed) James Cleland.

A Motion was made by Mr. Robert Findlay, that the said sum of Two Hundred and ten Pounds should be paid from the funds of the House, but that a strong Caveat should be entered on the Minutes against this being drawn into a precedent for any future application of the funds, except for the purpose of the Charity of the House, as the present Vote could only be justified by the extraordinary nature of the occasion; which being seconded by Mr. Ewing, it was moved by Mr. J. F. Alston, and seconded by Mr. Charles Stirling, that the consideration of the proposed Caveat should be delayed; which was carried by a majority.

27th February, 1823.

The motion of Mr. Robert Findlay, on the 10th December last, for entering a Caveat on the Minutes against the payment of Two Hundred and ten Pounds, from the funds of the House, towards the expenses of the Committee who presented the Address to the King, being drawn into a precedent, was resumed and discussed, when the House resolved by a majority that no such Caveat should be entered.

8th October, 1823.

The following Motion was made by Mr. Thomas Muir, and seconded, viz.:—

Resolved, That on the occasion of His Majesty's gracious visit to Scotland, in August, 1822, the Dean of Guild and his Court voted £300 of the funds of this House to defray the expenses of a Deputation of their number, who were appointed by them to go to Edinburgh.

That the funds of this House are Charitable, and ought exclusively to be appropriated to Charitable purposes.

That a Resolution, embodying the above sentiments, was proposed at the last Annual Meeting of this House.

That it was then withdrawn, on the assurance of the late Dean of

Guild, and some of his Brethren, that the money was only voted, and that it would not be taken out of the funds without a new vote of the then elected Dean of Guild and his Court, and that they hoped measures satisfactory to the Member proposing the above Resolution would be adopted, and which would render such Resolution unnecessary.

That this House perceives with regret, from the Statement circulated of the Annual Expenditure, that £210 have been taken out of the funds for the above purpose, and that no Resolution has been passed to prevent this being made a precedent for future appropriations of the funds for the same or other purposes not connected with the Charitable objects of this House.

After some discussion, Mr. Muir withdrew his Motion, and substituted for it the Motion for a Caveat made by Mr. Robert Findlay, on the 10th December last, of which the tenor follows:—"That the said sum of Two Hundred and ten Pounds should be paid from the funds of the House; but that a strong Caveat should be entered on the Minutes against this being drawn into a precedent for any future application of the funds, except for the purpose of the Charity of the House, as the present vote could only be justified by the extraordinary nature of the occasion." Upon which Mr. Samuel Hunter moved the previous question, That this Motion be not put. The House having divided, the previous question was carried by a majority, and the Motion was consequently negatived.

The House, on the Motion of Mr. Muir, unanimously voted thanks to William Smith, Esquire, the present Lord Provost, for his conduct in his late Office of Dean of Guild.

16th December, 1823.

The Dean of Guild presented to the House the following Letter:—

Glasgow College, November 23, 1823.

My dear Sir,—I beg leave to request that you will have the goodness to lay before the Meeting of the Merchants House the following Statement and request, which I respectfully submit to them.

Some months ago I formed the resolution of using my endeavours to get a Monument erected in Glasgow to the Memory of Knox, our great Reformer. I accordingly procured a Plan of a Doric Pillar, surmounted with a Statue of the Reformer, which has been thought worthy of the object.

The situation which is judged on many accounts most appropriate for placing the proposed Pillar is that part of the Park belonging to the Merchants House which fronts the entrance to the High Church yard.

May I therefore request that you will present my humble Petition to that Honourable House, that they would grant permission for this purpose.

The House shall be liable to no expense, and the grounds shall be put again into the best order; the Pillar will be an ornament to the grounds and to the whole scenery, as well as do honour to the City.

To that great Man we owe, in a great measure, the Blessings of the Reformation, and our most valuable Institutions, both of Religion and of Education. His Name is found also in the Matriculation Book as a Student of the University of Glasgow.

With the greatest respect, I remain, &c.

(Signed) Stevenson MacGill.

To Mungo N. Campbell, Esq.,
Dean of Guild.

The House remit the consideration of the subject of this Letter to the Committee on the Fir Park, to enquire and Report.

11th January, 1824.

At a Meeting specially called to receive and consider a Report on the subject of a Monument to John Knox, the following Report was presented:—

Glasgow, the 5th of January, 1824.

The Committee of the Merchants House on the Fir Park, to whom was referred an application from The Rev. Dr. MacGill for liberty to erect a Column with a Statue of John Knox in that property, having inspected the proposed site along with him, and having afterwards discussed the matter along with Mr. Ewing, are unanimously of opinion that the erection of the same may be effected without any injury to the property of the House, and will add very considerably to the beauty and interest of the scenery. They have therefore no hesitation in recommending to the House the general measure of giving the permission desired, although there are obviously a variety of minor particulars connected with the plan, and the preservation of the Walks, as already



FACADE
FROM NECROPOLIS BRIDGE.
1832

formed through the Park, which will require further discussion and arrangement, and which, in the opinion of the Committee, cannot be finally or accurately adjusted except in presence and with the assistance of the Architect.

The site proposed is about half-way up the Bank, directly fronting the entrance to the High Church yard, and near the turning of one of the Walks.

The total height of the Monument, including Pedestal, Column, and Statue, will be about sixty feet.

Which Report having been considered, was unanimously approved of, and the subject matter of it referred to the same Committee, that the Monument be erected at their sight, and to their satisfaction.

29th April, 1824.

It was stated that the House had been called together in consequence of a request that they should join other public Bodies in a Procession to-morrow, for the purpose of laying the foundation of the first Building on the New London Road.

The House unanimously resolved to attend accordingly.

22nd February, 1825.

At an adjourned Meeting, specially called to consider the Heads of a "Bill for enlarging the Harbour of Glasgow, and improving the Navigation of the River Clyde,"

It was moved by Mr. Samuel Hunter, and seconded by Mr. William Hamilton, that the Trust shall continue as before; upon which Motion the following amendment was moved by Mr. Robert Findlay, seconded by Mr. Daniel-MacKenzie:—Resolved, That the House receive with cordial satisfaction an intimation from the Dean of Guild that it is his intention, and that of the Committee on the River, whom he met to-day, to recommend to the Magistrates and Council to assume into the management of the River Trust five Gentlemen from the Trading part of the Community, in such manner as may be considered expedient by the Magistrates and Council.

The vote having been taken, the amendment was carried by fifteen votes, there being ten votes for the original Motion.

29th March, 1825.

At a Meeting of the House, specially called on a Requisition,

It was moved by Mr. Samuel Hunter, and seconded by Mr. James Oswald, that the House feels itself called upon to express its disapprobation of the Bill now in Parliament, entitled, "A Bill for improving the Navigation of the Clyde, from the Broomielaw at Glasgow, eastward, to Dalmarnock Bridge," as there is reason to apprehend that it may interfere with the supply of Water to the Citizens, and with the Commercial Navigation of the Clyde, while the advantages held out by it are problematical, and Resolve, that this Opinion of the House be communicated to the Lord Provost and Lord Dean of Guild. On which an amendment was moved by Mr. Robert Findlay, and seconded by Mr. James Ewing, that before entering into an expression of Opinion regarding the Upper Navigation Bill, the question be referred to a Committee, to investigate the facts and merits, and Report to a Meeting of the House, to be called at an early day.

The amendment being then put, seven Members voted for the amendment and seventeen against it. The original Motion was then put and carried.

Mr. Robert Findlay then protested against these Resolutions, for the following reasons, and took Instruments in the hands of the Clerk:—

REASONS OF PROTEST.

1st. That it is contrary to the usual decorum of procedure observed by this House to pronounce an Opinion upon the Merits of any question without previously investigating the facts. That on the present occasion there could exist no excuse for a precipitate judgment, as no progress could be made before Parliament in the Upper Navigation Bills until after the Easter recess; that the sentiments expressed in the leading Resolution, as well as the arguments of those who spoke in its defence, proved that much ignorance and misconception prevailed; and that, therefore, when assured by the Protestor that the fallacy of their views would be exposed by the Minutes and

Correspondence which would be exhibited to the proposed Committee, it was peculiarly incumbent on the House to pause before coming to any Resolution either in favour of or against the Bill.

2nd. That, as regarded the Glasgow Water Company, it was impossible that any injury could arise to them from the proposed extension of the Navigation, as, if necessary, no operation would be made on the bed of the River above the deep water at Rutherglen Green, the Ancient Boundary of the Navigation, which was considerably more than a Mile below the Works of the Glasgow Water Company; that no step was ever proposed to be taken by those interested in the Upper Navigation which was not guarded by an anxious desire to preserve, if not to increase, the supply of pure Water to the City from that source; and that the Protestor, whatever might be his individual interest, would be the first to join in opposing the Bills, could it be proved by possibility that, by any operations they sanctioned, that supply would be injured or interrupted.

3rd. That, as regarded the Lower Navigation, the Clauses in the Bills for connecting the Upper Navigation therewith, were in the hands of the Trustees on the Lower Navigation, and of Mr. Telford, one of the most eminent engineers whom Britain ever produced; and that in such hands no rational grounds could exist for apprehension that, in making the proposed junction, any sacrifice of the interests of the Lower Navigation and Harbours would be made. That in all probability the operations to the Eastern extremity of the Green of Glasgow would be made by the Trustees on the Lower Navigation; but that, were it settled otherwise, those concerned in the Upper Navigation had assumed no power of forming Quays or Wharfs on either side of the River, except with consent of the Proprietors of the adjoining Lands; and that the Clause regarding the junction at the Broomielaw would be modified to the wishes and interests of the Trustees on the Lower Navigation and Harbour, according to what they, under the advice of Mr. Telford, may think proper to prescribe.

4th. That it is impossible that there can be anything problematical in the benefits to be derived by the Community of Glasgow from opening up new and extensive Mines of Coal for the supply of its Population, Manufactures, and Export Trade, as every Mine which is opened up becomes a new Competitor, and a new source of supply; that the natural tendency of increased competition is to lower prices, even if unassisted by the very reduced rates of conveyance anticipated from the proposed operations, the tendency of which must be to lower the Charges upon the Coals brought to Glasgow through other channels; that it is not material to the question whether the Coals proposed to be sent down the River go chiefly to supply the Export or Home demand, as, if even wholly absorbed by the demand for Exportation, there would just be so much more Coal left from other sources to supply the local consumption, the price of which would inevitably lower in proportion as the Export demand ceased to support it beyond a fair remunerating rate. That it is peculiarly the duty of those who preside over the Public interest of this great Community to avail themselves to the utmost of the natural advantages presented by the river Clyde, for facilitating the supply of an article of the first necessity to the prosperity of our Manufactures and Commerce, and to the comforts of our Population; and that the above Resolutions, by discouraging that spirit, are

peculiarly unbecoming the Merchants House of Glasgow, unsuitable to their character as a Charitable Incorporation, and a dereliction of duty to the numerous body of Matriculated Members, who have confided in the House the guardianship of their interests.

5th. That, upon a recent occasion, this House was called upon to consider of the propriety of offering a Premium upon Coals brought from Linlithgow and other distant quarters, with a view to counteract the monopoly and exorbitant prices of that necessary of life in the Glasgow Market; and the thanks of the House were subsequently voted to the Great Canal Company and their Governor, for the handsome manner in which they had permitted Coals to be brought to Glasgow from those distant Mines free of Canal dues; and that it is therefore peculiarly inconsistent with these recent proceedings to interpose the influence of this House against the Establishment of a Navigation which, with its connecting Railways, must prove a permanent check to the recurrence of such an evil.

6th. That, independently of these considerations, the claim at Law to an open River, from the Broomielaw to Rutherglen Quay, still exists in all its force; and that therefore it is a prudential consideration with the Trustees on the Lower Navigation, whether it is not better to ensure an adequate Revenue for the expense incurred in removing the obstructions which have from time to time been placed in the way of that Navigation, together with a very liberal additional Revenue for the improvement of the Lower Trust, rather than run the hazard of heavy expenses at Law, with the chance of being compelled to remove these obstructions at their own Cost.

4th October, 1825.

At a Meeting of the House, specially called for the purpose of electing two Directors, under an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament for establishing an Asylum for the Blind in the City of Glasgow, the House elected the Dean of Guild and Robert Douglas Alston to be Directors of the said Asylum, on the part of this House, till the next Statutory Election.

It was moved, that the sum of Two Hundred Pounds be voted, from the funds of this House, in aid of the funds of that Asylum; and this Motion was ordered to be discussed and disposed of at the next Meeting of the House.

12th October, 1825.

On the Motion of the Dean of Guild, seconded by Mr. William Smith, the Meeting agreed to vote the sum of Two Hundred Pounds,

Sterling, from the funds of the House, in aid of the funds of the Glasgow Asylum for the Blind.

20th February, 1826.

At a Meeting of the House, specially called "to consider the proposed alteration in the Law regarding the Circulation of Bank Notes under £5,"

The House, after some discussion, agreed to the following Resolutions, which were ordered to be advertised in the Glasgow Newspapers :—

On the Motion of Kirkman Finlay, Esq., seconded by James Ewing, Esq.,

It was unanimously Resolved,—

That the Banks in Scotland have eminently contributed to the promotion of the public wealth.

That, previously to their institution, money was so extremely scarce that various nugatory attempts were made by the Scottish Parliament to encourage the Importation and restrain the Exportation of Specie.

That the commencement of prosperity in this Country was nearly coeval with the Incorporation of the Bank of Scotland, in 1695; that it was greatly accelerated by the subsequent establishment of the Royal Bank, in 1727; and that the increase of the circulating medium thus created, aided by the operation of the Union, gave the first successful impulse to the spirit and industry of the people.

That the rapid progress in Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures, since the middle of last Century, has been materially assisted by the pecuniary facilities afforded by the Banks, and that the authority of Dr. Adam Smith, in 1776, may be cited in illustration that "the Trade of the City of Glasgow doubled in fifteen years after the first erection of the Banks there; and that the Trade of Scotland had more than quadrupled since the first erection of the two public Banks in Edinburgh."

That the most perfect confidence has been uniformly reposed by the Public in the stability of Bank Notes, and that no Legislative interference was ever deemed requisite, except in the year 1765, to prevent the circulation of these below twenty shillings, which were issued in Local districts by persons of inadequate Capital, and which had the effect of banishing Silver Coin, and, in 1766, to make all Bank Notes payable on demand.

That a solid and judicious system of Paper Currency, convertible on demand into Gold, replaces an expensive instrument of Commerce, and not only facilitates, but extends the business of the Country.

That, for considerably more than a Century, the ordinary Traffic has been almost entirely conducted through the medium of One Pound Notes, and Silver; that any innovation on this practice would be hostile to the habits and inclinations of the people, and that the compulsory substitution of Gold would be viewed with aversion, from the distrust both as to its purity and weight.

That the ease and convenience attending the transportation of Bank Notes form a strong recommendation to the People of this Country, especially where considerable payments require to be made in small sums at a distance.

That the exclusion of Small Notes from the circle, and the obligation on Banks to provide Gold, would materially diminish their ability to accommodate the Public, particularly in times of scarcity and pressure, when their aid is most required.

That the hardship on Scotland as to the maintenance of a Metallic Currency would be increased by its distance from the Capital, and the consequent risk and cost of conveyance.

That, without presuming to touch on the policy of the measure now in contemplation with respect to the Sister Kingdom, it must be obvious to every practical man that there is not the most remote parallelism between the circumstances of the two Countries. In the first

place, The permission to English Banks as to the issue of Notes under five Pounds is of very recent origin, whereas in Scotland it existed before the Union, and has continued without interruption to the present time.

In the second place, It was declared by the Act of Queen Anne, in 1708, that no Private Bank in England can consist of more than six persons, while in Scotland the number is indefinite.

In the third place, There is no check in England as to excessive issue, while in Scotland the occurrence of such an evil is precluded by the reciprocal exchange of Notes among all the Banks twice a week in Edinburgh, and by the settlement of the Balances in Cash, or very short-dated Drafts on London.

In the last place, Numerous and melancholy failures have happened in England during every period of panic, whereas in Scotland the cases of Insolvency for a Century past are scarcely worth narrating; and it is believed that in one insignificant instance alone has any ultimate loss been sustained.

That, in such circumstances, any attempt to alter the established usages of this Land, to which we have been so long attached, and under which we have so long thriven, is uncalled for by our circumstances, is opposed to our customs, and must be injurious to our interests.

That every Constitutional means, therefore, shall forthwith be adopted to prevent the trial of so bold an experiment, and to resist the introduction of so impolitic a measure.

That Petitions, founded on these Resolutions, be presented to the House of Lords by the Duke of Montrose, and that the Duke of Hamilton, Earl Cathcart, and Lord Belhaven be solicited to support the same; and to the House of Commons by Mr. Campbell, Member for this district of Burghs, and that Lord Archibald Hamilton, Member for the County, Mr. Maxwell, Member for Renfrewshire, Mr. Buchanan, Member for Dumbartonshire, and Mr. Monteith, Member for the Lanark

district of Burghs, be requested to use their most strenuous efforts in opposition to the projected scheme.

That the Lord Provost, the Dean of Guild, and Mr. Finlay be requested, while in London, to wait on His Majesty's Ministers, and respectfully to represent the injurious consequences with which the proposed measure would be attended in this part of the Country.

And the House also resolved to present a Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury, representing the propriety of an issue of Exchequer Bills; and appointed Messrs. James Ewing, Archibald Brown, and John May as a Committee to prepare the same.

The House requested the Lord Provost and Dean of Guild to proceed forthwith to London to support the objects of the said Petitions and Memorial.

The following is a copy of the Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury :—

That the pecuniary distress which originated in England has at length reached this City, and threatens to be productive of the most alarming consequences.

That already there has been a sudden and serious contraction of the circulating Medium, which has fettered the operations of Commerce, and produced a general pressure.

That your Memorialists by no means deny that the origin of this emergency may be traced to the system of over-trusting and speculation; but they can assure your Lordships that this has been scarcely at all effected with the spirit of scheming which too generally prevailed, and yet the most prudent and cautious People have been involved in the calamity, whose means are much more than adequate to their engagements, but whose funds are locked up by the prevailing Panic, which renders all Commercial Property unavailable.

That the consequence of this unfortunate pressure is a general suspension of Sales, a cessation of Orders, and a stoppage of Manufacturing Operations, which has already thrown a numerous body of Workmen out of Employment, and threatens to spread misery, ruin, and disorder among the extended Population.

That your Memorialists are perfectly aware of the caution and delicacy which require to be exercised by His Majesty's Government as to Political interposition for the relief of Commercial distress; but knowing as they do the extreme extent to which this Calamity has now arrived, deprecating the consequences which may ensue to the state of the lower orders and the peace of the Community, and recurring to similar periods of pressure in 1793 and 1810, when the interference of Government produced

the happiest results to the Community, your Memorialists are induced, with the greatest earnestness, but at the same time with the highest respect, to solicit your Lordships not to turn a deaf ear to the general Complaints of the Commercial Public, but to grant such aid, by an issue of Exchequer Bills, on adequate Security, as will replace the quantity of Currency withdrawn from circulation, as will put in motion the Money now locked up by public apprehension, and as will produce a general return of confidence, security, and industry.

That your Memorialists are perfectly satisfied, from the great and realized wealth of this district of the Country, that the mere demonstration of such support on the part of His Majesty's Government will be productive of the happiest effects, and that a very small part of the aid which your Lordships may be pleased to allow, and for a very short period, will be amply sufficient to produce the desired effect.

May it therefore please your Lordships to take the case of this important part of His Majesty's Dominions into your earliest possible consideration, and to grant such relief as to your Lordships' wisdom may seem meet, with the view of producing much benefit to, and averting much evil from, the Country.

14th March, 1826.

The Annual Committee recommend that William Gillespie Crawford, who has acted as Dean of Guild Officer since the death of the former Officer, be elected Officer for the present year, till next Michaelmas, and that he be allowed a Salary of £20 per annum, for the period during which he has so acted, and till Michaelmas next, and be allowed two shillings and sixpence for each New Entry of Members during the same period, and that his time is to be wholly at the disposal of the Dean of Guild.

The Dean of Guild reported that the Lord Provost and he had, as desired by the Resolution of the House on the 20th ultimo, proceeded to London, and had succeeded in obtaining essential aid to the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of this City and district, by an agreement with the Bank of England, under the mediation of Ministers, to advance Money on Security, in the manner and on the terms already generally notified to the Public.

17th May, 1826.

At an adjourned special Meeting, called to consider the propriety of subscribing Two Hundred Pounds in aid of the fund for the relief of the Poor,

After full discussion, it was moved that Two Hundred Pounds be so granted from the funds of the House; on which Mr. John May moved, and Mr. James Oswald seconded, an amendment, that instead of the proposed Grant, any surplus of the funds be applied, at the discretion of the Directors, to augment the allowance to the present Pensioners of the House. The votes being taken, the amendment was negatived, and the original Motion put and carried.

11th October, 1826.

Present—Robert Dalglish, Dean of Guild, and his brethren of Council of the Merchants House, viz:—

The Lord Provost,	Messrs. Stewart Smith,
Bailie Hinshaw,	„ Kirkman Finlay,
„ Graham,	„ James Dennistoun,
„ Cuthbertson,	„ William Smith,
Messrs. John Gordon,	„ Charles Stirling,
„ Daniel MacKenzie,	„ James MacKenzie,
„ Septimus Ellis,	„ Laurence Hill,
„ Frederick Adamson,	„ Alexander Garden,
„ James Browne,	„ Archd. Brown,
„ John May,	„ Robt. Douglas Alston,
„ Robert Aitken,	„ David Crawford.

After voting for Leets in the usual manner, the House made choice of Messrs. Alexander Garden, James Dennistoun, and William Smith, Merchants and Members of the said House, as the Leet to be presented from the said House to the Town Council; out of which Leet one of them is to be elected Dean of Guild for the year ensuing, and until the next ordinary time of election after Michaelmas next, and ordain the said Leet to be presented by the said Alexander Garden.

12th December, 1826.

The House made choice of Robert Douglas Alston, Esq., Merchant, and a Member of this House, to be Preses of the Dean of Guild Court during the year current, and until the next Annual Election at Michaelmas next.

The Collector reported from the Committee on the Quarries, that the Relief Committee owed the Merchants House the sum of £442, 2s. for the Lordship of Stones broken by persons employed by the Relief Committee, besides the surface damages at the usual rate in similar cases.

After some discussion, the House, with a due regard for the Property and Revenue of the House entrusted to their charge, and actuated at the same time by a strong feeling of sympathy for the present state of the unemployed Operatives, agreed to take only two pence, instead of six pence, the usual rate of Lordship, besides the damages, and remitted to the Quarry Committee of the House, with full power finally to arrange as to the damages and otherwise with the Relief Committee.

4th January, 1827.

The House petitioned the House of Commons thus:—

That your Petitioners, as representing the Commercial Community of the City of Glasgow, feel it their duty to recommend in the strongest manner to the favourable consideration of your Honourable House the Petition of Mr. Henry Bell, of Helensburgh, in the County of Dumbarton, Engineer, who first successfully introduced the practical application of the Steam Engine to the Navigation of the River and Firth of Clyde, from whence it has been since brought into universal use.

That Mr. Bell spent many years, and incurred great Expense, in gradually maturing his improvements. He is old, lame, and in narrow circumstances, and appears to your Petitioners to have an unanswerable claim to a liberal remuneration from his Country, for the eminent advantages of his labours to all Classes of the Community.

And therefore pray this Honourable House to take into consideration Mr. Bell's public services, and to allow him such remuneration for his great sacrifices to the general benefit as to your Honourable House shall seem suitable and proper.

The Petition was sent to Mr. Campbell, Member for the Burghs, for presentation.

19th January, 1827.

Address of Condolence to the King on the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of York and Albany, thus:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Dean of Guild and Merchants House of Glasgow, embrace the earliest opportunity humbly to approach your Majesty with sentiments of the most heartfelt condolence on the mournful event of the decease of His Royal Highness, Frederick Duke of York and Albany.

We join in the universal feeling of profound sympathy with the grief of your Majesty for the loss of a beloved Brother, endeared to your Majesty by his strong and uniformly affectionate attachment—to the British people by the manly simplicity, sincerity, and benevolence of his Character—to the British Army by his unexampled impartiality, by his steady, yet humane system of discipline, and unremitting and exact attention to the arduous duties of the Chief Command of your Majesty's Forces,—and above all, by his kind, considerate, and prompt attention to the rights, the comforts, and just requests of the humblest Soldier.

The unparalleled efficiency to which the Land Forces of the Empire have been raised by the improved organization introduced by His Royal Highness during his Military administration, which prepared the means of success to your Majesty's Arms, will form a Monument of his eminent Merit, enduring as the History of British Victories.

With every sentiment of zeal and dutiful attachment we offer up our earnest prayers for a long duration of your Majesty's mild and paternal Reign over a free, a loyal, and happy people.

13th March, 1827.

It is reported that it has been arranged by the Quarry Committee and the Relief Committee that the mutual accounts betwixt the latter Committee and the House are to be settled by the House accepting from the Relief Committee the sum of £200 in full of Lordship and surface damages for all past transactions.

The Relief Committee returned their thanks to the House for the very liberal adjustment alluded to, whereby employment was afforded to the Operatives during the recent unexampled depression of Trade. That Committee further desire to acknowledge the promptitude with which the Directors of the Merchants House enabled those operations, so important to the peace and welfare of the Community, to be carried

forward—a service to the Public which the Committee cannot too highly appreciate.

The House having taken up the subject of the improvement of the Bridge at the Broomielaw, and the House being convinced of the spirit, judgment, and uprightness with which the management of the Bridge Trust has been conducted hitherto, do now approve of the measures which the Magistrates and Town Council are pursuing for the purpose of widening the Jamaica Street Bridge and improving its approaches, and therefore deemed it proper to petition both Houses of Parliament to the following effect:—

That there is at present depending before your Honourable House “a Bill for explaining and amending three Acts for building a Bridge across the River Clyde, from the City of Glasgow to the Village of Gorbals, and for repairing, widening, and enlarging the Old Bridge across the said River, from the said City to the said Village, and for other purposes therein mentioned.”

That from the immense increase of the Population of the City of Glasgow and Suburbs, the Bridge across the River Clyde, opposite to Jamaica Street, has been found too narrow and inconvenient, if not dangerous to the Passengers; and the safety, convenience, and advantage of the Proprietors and Inhabitants of the said City, and of the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew, imperiously require that the said Bridge be widened and enlarged, and the ascent thereto reduced, and approaches thereto improved.

That during the last year a spacious New Harbour for Shipping has been excavated and constructed opposite to the Old Harbour of Broomielaw, so as to provide more convenient accommodation for the increasing Trade of the said City; and the whole intercourse betwixt this New Harbour and the City of Glasgow must necessarily be along the said Bridge, whereby a great addition will be made to the number of Waggon and other Carriages for the conveyance of bulky commodities, which already crowd and obstruct the passage by this Bridge, and render it difficult and dangerous to the Persons, and to the Horses, Carriages, Waggon, and Carts.

That the said Bridge and the ascent thereto, at both ends, are steep and oppressive, and often dangerous to the Horses employed in drawing heavy Carriages; and great benefit and comfort to the Public would arise from reducing the summit of the Bridge, and raising and improving the ascent and approaches thereto.

That great Public inconvenience necessarily arises from the said Bridge not being subject to one jurisdiction; and great security and advantage would result to the Community if the Bridge were subjected throughout to the same jurisdiction for the purposes of Lighting, Paving, Cleaning, and Guarding, by placing the entire Bridge within the Territory of the Burgh of Glasgow.

That this House being convinced of the spirit, judgment, and uprightness with

which the management of the existing Bridge Trust has been hitherto conducted, do approve of the measures which the Magistrates and Town Council of the said City are pursuing for the purposes of widening the said Bridge and improving its approaches.

They therefore pray that it may please your Honourable House that the Bill for the said purposes, before referred to, may pass into a Law.

1st June, 1827.

At a Meeting specially called "to take into consideration a Letter from the Chairman of a Committee of Subscribers to the New Exchange, Argyle Street and Trongate situation," the Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting the following Letter from Mr. Charles Stirling, junior:—

Glasgow, 18th May, 1827.

Sir,—I am desired by the Committee of Subscribers to the New Exchange, Argyle Street and Trongate situation, to lay before you and the other Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow a copy of the Report of the Interim Committee, with the Resolutions adopted by the Subscribers on the 16th of May current, with copies of the Reports of Mr. Clarke and of Messrs. Baird and Scott, referred to in the Report of the Interim Committee.

The Committee regret that before taking any decisive measures as to fixing on a situation for a Building in which the Merchants of Glasgow are so vitally interested as the Public Exchange or Centre of Business, time had not been given them to consult the wishes and interests of the Merchants House and other Public Bodies, in terms of the instructions given the General Committee at the Meeting held on the 17th January last, at which the Lord Provost presided, and also the interests and wishes of the Traders and Inhabitants of Glasgow in general.

By the conduct of parties over whom they had no control, this has been prevented; and the question at issue now is, Whether the Exchange or Centre of Business of Glasgow shall be placed on the Main Thoroughfare of the City, and near the centre of the Royalty, or shall be removed to the verge or border of the Royalty. You, and the other Members of the Merchants House, must be sufficiently aware of the injury of a measure such as that last mentioned, to the general prosperity of the Traders of the City, and how prejudicial to the privileges and the revenue of the different Corporations, to make it necessary to call such effects to your attention.

The Subscribers trust that you will call an early Meeting of the whole of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, for the purpose of laying this Communication and the accompanying Papers before them, and requesting their support and sanction to the New Undertaking, not only as beneficial in itself, but as a preventive of one which must be productive of the greatest injury to the Traders of the City.

The House unanimously agreed to a Motion for declining to give any opinion in this matter at present.

19th October, 1827.

The Dean of Guild reported an extract of Minute of the Town Council as follows:—

At Glasgow, the 12th October, 1827 years.

The Magistrates and Council of the said City being in Council assembled, appoint a Meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chamber upon the 19th October instant, at twelve o'clock noon, for chosing a Deacon Convener in place of Robert M'Farlane, who, in consequence of his refusal to accept of that Office, has been this day fined; And thereafter the Lord Provost requested William Rodger, Esq., late Deacon Convener, now present, to convene the Trades House previous to the said 19th day of October, and on that day, at twelve o'clock, to transmit to the Magistrates and Council a Leet of three persons of the Trades Rank, so as one of them may be chosen Deacon Convener for the ensuing year; and likewise to warn the Deacons of the Incorporated Crafts of this Burgh to attend and vote at the said Election; and the Lord Provost also requested Alexander Garden, Esq., Dean of Guild, now present, to call a Meeting of the Merchants House on or before the said 19th of October, and on that day, at the hour before mentioned, to transmit an extract of a Minute of the said House naming a number of Merchants to vote in the said Election, sufficient, with the Merchant Councillors, to balance the Trades Councillors, and the said Deacons of Crafts having a right to vote as aforesaid.

The House accordingly this day elected nineteen of the Members to repair immediately to the Town Council, and there vote in balance of the Deacons of Crafts in the election of the Deacon Convener according to Custom.

11th March, 1828.

The Committee reported their having purchased and obtained a conveyance of their property at the Ladywell from the Trustees of John Buchanan.

10th June, 1828.

The Committee on the Fir Park reported that two offers of ground contiguous to the said Park have been made, which are marked as relative hereto, which they recommend should be immediately accepted. The House approved of the Report, and remitted to the Committee to

complete the purchases, and to take such measures regarding these properties as they shall see to be for the advantage of the House.

The Collector reported that a Donation of £100 had been left by Mr. Wardrop, Coppersmith in Glasgow, to be applied in addition to Saunders of Auldhouse Mortification, in terms of Mr. Wardrop's Deed of Settlement.

The Magistrates and Town Council, by Minute of 28th December, 1821, resolved, that instead of charging the Merchants House any Rent for the use of the Town Hall, they allowed the House the use of the Hall in the meantime rent free; but by tolerance only, and so as in no shape to interfere with the right of the Magistrates and Council to use the Hall as they please.

The House express their obligations to the Magistrates and Town Council for the very handsome manner in which they have granted to the House the gratuitous use of the Town Hall, and remit to the Dean of Guild, Messrs. James Ewing, William Perry, James Browne, and John May, as a Committee, with instructions to cause the Hall to be cleaned and painted at the expense of this House.

10th November, 1828.

The Dean of Guild moved certain Resolutions for an acceleration of the London Mail, which having been considered, were unanimously approved of, and a Committee appointed accordingly to take every measure they may think conducive to the accomplishment of this important object, and also to endeavour to procure a speedy delivery of the Letters after the arrival of the Mails in this City.

10th March, 1829.

The Annual Committee recommended that a new valuation of the Property of the House should be made by that Committee, on account of the change in the value of Property, and other circumstances.

The Annual Committee observe with regret the absence of one of its most attentive

Members, Mr. John Wardrop; that they sincerely sympathize with him on what they have learned to be the cause; and that they beg warmly to recommend to the Directors to pass a special Resolution expressive of the sense they entertain of his long, faithful, and useful services to the Merchants House; and in testimony of such peculiar claims, to place his name at the head of the List (of Pensions) for £75 per Annum, during his life.

In pursuance of Minute of 9th October last, your Committee have had various Meetings with the Trustees of the Statute Labour and others interested in the improvement of Duke Street, and they beg leave to report that they consider it would be for the advantage of the Property of the House to concur with others for that purpose, and to contribute from the funds of the House the sum of £100 towards the expense of such improvement, provided Wright Street be raised at the bottom in such a manner as that the access through it shall not be worse than at present.

The above recommendations were approved of.

15th October, 1829.

It was moved by Mr. James Ewing, seconded by Mr. William Smith, and unanimously resolved, that, at the Meetings of the Matriculated Members of the House, the Reporters of the Glasgow Newspapers shall be admitted, upon producing to the Officer a note from the Editor of each Newspaper, specifying the name of his Reporter.

The Dean of Guild presented the following Report on the Fir Park :—

The Fir Park and Quarry Committee beg leave to report that, some time ago, their attention was called by Mr. Ewing to the propriety of converting the Park into an Ornamental Burying Ground. They have accordingly, after considering the subject and consulting with other Gentlemen of approved taste and professional skill, resolved to recommend the proposal to the favourable consideration of the House; and, in the words of Mr. Ewing at the first Meeting held in his house on the subject, so far back as 18th July, 1828, to state that “the Fir Park appears admirably adapted for a Pere la Chaise, and which would harmonize beautifully with the adjacent scenery, and constitute a solemn and appropriate appendage to the Venerable Structure in its front; and which, while it afforded a much-wanted accommodation to the higher Classes, would at the same time convert a Property, at present unfrequented and unproductive, into a general resort, and a lucrative source of Profit to a Charitable Institution.”

The Park and adjoining unoccupied or wrought-out Quarry lands extend to about five acres of ground, and certainly not only afford no Revenue, but the Park is attended with a small annual charge, which, trifling as it is, seems scarcely called for by the little resort of Members to the Walks. It is totally unfit for the purposes of Agriculture, and equally so for the erection of Houses or Manufactories; and, from the

extent and nature of the superficies, there is no prospect of the Park ever being available, like the property on the East, to the purposes of the Quarries. But, on the other hand, the great increase of Population since any tract of ground has been added to established Churchyards; the circumstance of that Parish within which the Park is situated, and which now contains so many of the residences of our wealthier Citizens, having no specific Parochial Cemetery except the Crypt of the Cathedral; the improved taste beginning to be displayed in ornamenting some of our neighbouring Churchyards; and the fact that additional accommodation of this nature is a desideratum here; while we have occasion to know that such ground invariably sells dearer and as readily as any other description of property; the peculiar and characteristic advantages of the Fir Park in the facility of acquiring abundant soil from the tirrings of the adjacent Quarry; and the adaptation of the section of the Rock for constructing Vaults and Tombs of the securest description,—all afford strong reason to believe that a property in the immediate vicinity of the High Church, and of the most crowded Burial Ground in Glasgow, might be applied to the same purpose with every prospect of advantage.

On a very safe calculation, it would admit of at least 800 Parterres or Tombs being disposed of in such a way as would not only not detract from, but materially increase the beauty and convenience of the Walks—under proper regulations, of course, for this purpose in regard to Planting and Building—but leaving at the same time ample scope to every Proprietor for the exercise of his own taste, and for the various modes of expressing individual feelings, which will constitute at once a peculiar Elevation or Plan.

If each of the Tombs were sold at the moderate price of £25, it would add no less than £20,000 to the Funds of the House.

The Committee do not calculate on immediate Sales producing any approximation to this sum, yet they apprehend that ultimately, or in process of time, it would not be unreasonable to expect a much larger; and they have been credibly informed that one of the Corporations of Edinburgh have disposed of a large tract of ground on the Calton Hill at the rate of from £9,000 to £11,000 per Acre; and your Committee may also appeal to the operations presently carrying on at Liverpool for obtaining, with a great expenditure and the assistance of Art, the same objects and advantages which are afforded in a much greater degree by Nature itself in the Property of the Merchants House.

Should the measure meet approbation, it would be expedient that a Special Committee be appointed for the purpose of carrying the views of the House into effect.

It was resolved to remit this Report to the Committee on the Park, Quarries, and Property of the House, with instructions to cause it to be printed, and a copy sent to each of the Directors, and to be published in the Newspapers, for the information of the Matriculated Members and the Public at large, and that a Meeting of the Directors be called by the Dean of Guild to consider this Report.



NEWBY BURNING HOUSE.

1856

12th November, 1829.

The Report on converting the Merchant House Park into a Burying Ground, which, agreeable to the resolutions of the last Meeting, had been printed and circulated to the Directors of the House, was read. Which Report being discussed, the House unanimously approved of the general principle thereof, and remitted the matter to the same Committee, with the addition of Mr. Gilmour, to make out a more special Report on the details of the whole subject, and prepare relative plans for the future consideration of the House.

17th February, 1830.

At a special Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called for the purpose of considering the propriety of Petitioning Parliament for the removal of all Restrictions on the Trade with India, and for throwing open the Trade with China,

Mr. Kirkman Finlay moved that the following Petition to Parliament on the subject be adopted, viz. :—

That the Petitioners have learned with very great satisfaction, from the proceedings of your Right Honourable House, the Resolution to enquire into the present state of the Affairs of the East India Company, and especially of the Laws which affect the residence of British Subjects in, and the situation of the British Trade with, Countries situated to the Eastward of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Petitioners beg respectfully to state that the Commerce and Manufactures of this City have derived very important advantages from that degree of Freedom which was afforded in 1814 by the opening of the Trade to the East Indian Presidencies; and they have every reason to look with confidence to the gradual increase of that beneficial Commercial intercourse, if the Measures permitting the residence of British Subjects in the interior of India, lately adopted by the Governments of India, under the sanction and authority of the Board of Directors, were legalized and extended, and if the resort of British Subjects to India were not, as heretofore, unnecessarily restrained. The Petitioners beg to refer to the fact, not unknown to your Lordships, respecting the dependence of this Country on the United States of America for the supply of Cotton Wool, an Article of indispensable necessity in the most extensive Manufacture carried on in the Kingdom. It would be, doubtless, of the greatest importance to the best interests of the Empire if this dependence were partially, if not entirely removed; and if we could bring forward Cotton of suitable quality, the produce of our Eastern

possessions, to supply a larger part than can now be done of the wants of this Country and of Europe.

It appears evident to the Petitioners that this object may to a great extent be attained; and they are warranted in the opinion now expressed by witnessing what has already been done in India, and especially what has been effected under the directions of the Pacha of Egypt in that Country, so similar in soil and climate to many parts of India.

The Petitioners take the liberty to state, that at no period in the History of the Country and of India did so many fortunate circumstances combine to enable the Legislature to adopt the Measures most likely to promote the Commercial prosperity of both, and that nothing appears to be wanting to the establishment of an order of things best calculated to advance Indian Wealth and Resources but the existence of the utmost degree of freedom in respect to resorting to, and residing in, India, that is compatible with the entire safety and tranquillity of that Country.

The Petitioners beg further to entreat the earliest and particular attention of your Right Honourable House to the still more important subject of the present state of our Trade with China, a trade essential to the proper and profitable enjoyment of all Eastern Commerce, and otherwise particularly valuable to the Merchants and Manufacturers of this City, and likely, under the operation of unrestricted intercourse, to increase and flourish infinitely, to the advantage of the Commercial, Maritime, and Manufacturing interests of the Empire.

In proof of what has now been advanced, the Petitioners have only to adduce the fact of the great extent of the American Trade with that singular people, which, although conducted under many disadvantages, has become of great magnitude and value, and has not been liable to any danger or interruption that is deserving of observation.

The Petitioners cannot here refrain from expressing their regret that the intercourse with that distant and friendly Empire, at first confined to the East India Company entirely, as appears to the Petitioners, on account of its Geographical position, and when its Trade was unknown and valueless to British Mercantile Interests, should be suffered to be so exclusively retained, under an entirely altered state of circumstances in relation to the Trade itself, and the means possessed by private British Merchants to enjoy the benefits of it, with advantage to themselves and to their Country.

In proof that the Trade can be safely and extensively carried on by individual private Merchants and Companies, the Petitioners have only to appeal to the fact of American Trade, now as considerable as that of the East India Company; and as evidence that British Merchants are likely to be still more successful in the China Trade than the American, reference may be had to the account of the state of British and American Trade with India, where both are free, and where the former has greatly increased, and the latter diminished, although possessed of the right to Trade from India to China, an advantage hitherto denied to the Merchants of the United Kingdom.

It is well known to the Petitioners that it has been represented to your Right Honourable House that the East India Company have not, during the last sixteen years, derived any emolument or advantage from the Monopoly of the Trade with China, since

it can be satisfactorily shown that the whole amount of their gain in that beneficial Commerce has been expended in the necessary charges of their Indian Government.

The Petitioners may be allowed to say that such a fact, supposing it to be true, can be no reason for taxing the Inhabitants of Great Britain, but still less can it form any rational or reasonable ground for depriving British Merchants of a profitable and advantageous Commerce.

If Parliament were to decide that the Indian Government ought to be maintained from British Revenue, and that taxes were to be imposed to support their expenses, it is surely too much to assume that such Revenue can be more easily raised from the Public when they are prohibited from enjoying, than when they are allowed to participate in the Trade from which the principal tax is derived.

The Petitioners humbly conceive that the reason stated for confining is a strong additional reason for opening the Trade to China.

It appears to the Petitioners that it must be evident to your Lordships, that if the Cotton Trade of this Country were, in the same measure as the China Trade, under the strict regulations of Monopoly, that it would be at once an absurd and vain attempt to raise an excessive Tax upon it, and what is true of the one branch of Trade must be true of the other, although comparatively of smaller extent.

The Petitioners further desire to be permitted to state to your Right Honourable House that the Trade with China appears to them to be a necessary and indispensable link in the chain of Eastern Commerce, and that the removal of it from the Petitioners is but to open partially and unprofitably the Trade to the East Indies, with which it is so materially and intimately connected.

The Petitioners repose the most implicit confidence in the wisdom of this Right Honourable House, and feel confident that, after due deliberation and enquiry, such measures will be adopted as will advance the prosperity of the Inhabitants of the British Possessions in India, and secure to all His Majesty's subjects in the United Kingdom an entire freedom in Eastern Trade, and such right of resort and residence as may be consistent with the safety and tranquillity of our Eastern Empire.

The House appointed this Petition to be presented to the House of Lords by His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, and to the House of Commons by Mr. Campbell, the City Member.

5th March, 1830.

In all cases of Pensions granted hereafter, the representatives of the Pensioners on returning the Ticket may be entitled to draw as Funeral Charges the next quarter's Pension falling due after the Pensioner's death.

16th March, 1830.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the House, specially called for the purpose of considering the Heads of a Bill for extending the Royalty of Glasgow over the Lands of Blythswood, proposed to be passed into a Law during the present Session of Parliament, under the sanction of the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow,

Mr. Robert M'Gavin moved that the Clerk should read whatever regarded the point of including the Property of the Merchants House in the extended Royalty, either in the Bill itself or in the Records of the House, which were accordingly read.

Mr. Robert M'Gavin then moved, and Mr. Charles Mackintosh seconded, the following Resolutions:—

1st. That the Meeting observes with regret that, under existing circumstances, a Bill for extending the Royalty of the City of Glasgow over the Lands of Blythswood and adjacent Lands, and for amending the Acts relating to the Police of the said City, has been brought into Parliament under the auspices of the Magistracy.

2nd. That as the Merchants House of Glasgow owns in property and superiority certain Lands of Easter and Wester Craigs, part of which it is proposed by this Bill to annex to the Royalty, and in consequence of which annexation whatever portion of these Lands might hereafter be fenced out as building ground would have material burdens and inconveniences entailed upon them, without receiving any countervailing advantages in return, this Meeting has thus a particular interest in objecting to the Measure.

3rd. That the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House being, as a body, Heritors of the Barony Parish, the interests and privileges of which Parish may be materially injured by the proposed Measure being carried into effect, it is therefore the duty of this Meeting to oppose it.

4th. That the most unequivocal and general opposition having been manifested towards this Bill by the Trades House, and the fourteen Incorporated Trades of the City of Glasgow, by the Commissioners of Police, and by so large a portion as upwards of 13,000 of the Inhabitants of the said City, further, by a decided majority, both in number and in extent of property, of the Feuars and Inhabitants of the district proposed to be annexed, and lastly, by the assembled Heritors of the Barony Parish, from which the district is proposed to be detached, all of which classes have strongly petitioned Parliament against the Bill, this Meeting cannot but express deep regret that the Magistracy should persevere in so objectionable a measure, and must earnestly hope that they may still be induced to withdraw the Bill.

5th. That, entertaining such views, this Meeting does now resolve to petition Parliament against the measure, in unison with the terms of the foregoing Resolutions.

Mr. Robert Findlay moved that the House do now adjourn, which Mr. Samuel Hunter seconded; and the Leets of the Matriculated Members of the House being called over, 116 voted for the original Resolution and 80 for the adjournment,—there being a majority of 36.

A Protest was taken by Mr. Robert Findlay and others, of the following tenor:—

We, the undersigned Matriculated Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, for ourselves and those who adhere to us, hereby protest against the Resolutions agreed to by the majority of a General Meeting of the Matriculated Members, held by appointment of the Dean of Guild, in the Town Hall of Glasgow, this 16th day of March, 1830.

Because, without entering into the arguments upon more general grounds used by the Supporters or Opposers of the Bill for annexing the Lands of Blythswood to the Royalty of Glasgow (which persons are apt to view with more or less approbation, according as they may harmonize with their individual prejudices or interests), we deem it our paramount duty, in our character of Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, to throw out of view all personal feelings, and to be guided solely by what may be conducive to the permanent interests and respectability of the Merchants House.

Because although, for the sake of avoiding any schism tending in the present excited state of the feelings of many of the Members to disturb the peace and harmony so important to be preserved, we were willing to have adjourned the Meeting without any recorded expression of our sentiments; yet, having failed in this attempt, we deem it our duty to record our opinion that, in the following views, the Bill in question, if passed into a Law, will be peculiarly advantageous to the Merchants House.

1st.—Because the Dean of Guild and his Council have, with the consent of the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow, got a clause inserted into the Bill by which the Proprietors of the Fir Park and Wester Craigs, belonging to the Merchants House, shall be annexed to the Royalty of Glasgow on the same favourable terms as the Barony of Blythswood, and shall thus be placed under the protection of the excellent and efficient Police of Glasgow,—a point of peculiar importance in the view of converting the Fir Park into a Public Cemetery, by which, according to the estimates made by persons of skill, an addition of £20,000 may be calculated upon as a probable future addition to the Funds of the House.

2nd.—That the proposed obligation on the Feuars or Proprietors and Inhabitants of the Lands of Blythswood to enter Burgesses of Glasgow will obviously contribute directly to increase the Revenue of the House to the extent of its proportion of the Freedom Fines; and while the proposed Union will even, independently of such a compulsory provision, encourage new entries with the House, such entries will be from a class of Burgesses not likely to become burdensome on the Funds, and whose Matriculation will therefore enable the House to grant more liberal aid to others who may stand in need of it.

Finally.—That as the Constitution of the House is open and liberal, it is equally inconsistent with that Constitution, as it is at variance with its respectability and its best interests, to adopt Resolutions whose tendency is to fix a prescribed pale, such as the boundary of the Ancient Royalty, beyond which its Members are to be treated as aliens, and thus less inducement held out to others so circumstanced to become Members.

And we further Protest against any part of the Funds of this House being appropriated to the forwarding of purposes so destructive to its interests.

27th April, 1830.

The Lord Advocate's Bill was taken into consideration, and it was unanimously Resolved,—

That this House, as the representative of a great Mercantile Community, are deeply interested in the due administration of Civil Justice in Scotland.

That they have therefore experienced peculiar satisfaction in observing the attention of Parliament directed to so important a subject.

That they highly approve of the leading provision in the Bill introduced by the Lord Advocate, that "the Jurisdiction for the Trial by Jury shall be united with, and shall form a part of, the ordinary administration of Justice in the Court of Session," as the Country will thus be relieved of a separate, cumbersome, and costly machinery.

That the practical benefit, however, of the Measure must depend on the simplification of procedure, the shortening of delay, and the lessening of expense.

That hailing with pleasure the recognition of the principle, that "certain alterations and reductions should take place in the Judicial Establishment of Scotland," this House must confess their disappointment that a more extended view has not been taken of the Reforms which are required by the existing state of the Country.

That deploring the multiplication of Appeals to, and the frequency of reversals in, the House of Lords—yet entertaining the highest respect for the distinguished Judges of the Land,—the House courteously submit that professional attention should be devoted to the investigation of the cause, and the suggestion of a remedy, leaving it to be considered whether a System should not be introduced analogous to the practice in England, and an intermediate Court of Review be appointed previously to the ultimate appeal.

That the Fee Fund of the Court of Session—a tax levied on legal procedure for support of the Clerks—now operates oppressively on the Public, and that these Officers ought to be remunerated from the Exchequer.

That while this House highly appreciate the advantages of Jury Trial as an integral and constitutional part of the Supreme Court, they feel it their duty to declare their sentiments as to the benefit which would accrue from the extension of the system to provincial Jurisdiction.

That the great Population and Commercial consequence of this district in particular call loudly for such Judicial provision.

That by ingrafting the principle of Jury on the local Courts, by shortening and simplifying their form of Process, by taking the testimony of Witnesses in presence of those who are to decide, instead of the tedious, expensive, and unsatisfactory mode of privately committing it to record, by substituting oral pleading in place of the mass of written altercation under which every cause groans before it appears for a Judgment, and, in short, by a cheap, efficient, and expeditious mode of dispensing Justice, the greatest practical good would be conferred on the Community.

That, in point of fact, such a system is already sanctioned by the Legislature, as the most important legal and pecuniary rights in the execution of Acts of Parliament are entrusted to the decision of a Sheriff and Jury.

That any Law which would have the effect of still further concentrating the administration of Justice in the Capital would be injurious to the other parts of the Country.

That approving, as this House do, of the proposal to merge the Court of Admiralty in the Court of Session, provided the Costs of Suit be not increased, they are at the same time of opinion that, for the convenience of the Commercial and Shipping Interests, and particularly in Maritime cases which require despatch, such as the detention or liberation of Vessels, the Sheriff ought to have a primary Jurisdiction, without any limitation of value to £25, as proposed in the Bill.

That it would be of much benefit to many Classes if a cheap and easy mode were introduced for regulating small cases of Bankruptcy, by transferring the supervision to an Inferior Court.

That it would be an essential accommodation to the Landed and Monied Interests if Heritable Bonds were allowed to pass by simple indorsation, in place of requiring Assignation and Infestment.

That the abolishing of Sasines, and making the record of Conveyance alone necessary, would be of the greatest consequence to the facility and security of all transactions in Heritable property.

That a copy of these Resolutions be forwarded to the Lord Advocate, with the acknowledgment of this House for the enlightened sentiments expressed by him on introducing the Bill, and with a request that he will take these suggestions into consideration. That copies be also transmitted to Mr. Peel, Secretary of State for the Home Department, and to the Members of Parliament for Scotland; and that Petitions, founded on these Resolutions, be sent to the Earl of Glasgow for presentation to the House of Lords; and to Mr. Campbell of Blythswood, Member for the district of Burghs, for presentation to the House of Commons.

That these Resolutions be published in the Glasgow Newspapers.

7th July, 1830.

The Dean of Guild moved that the following Dutiful Address, on occasion of the Death of His late Majesty King George the Fourth, be adopted by the House :—

Unto the King's most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,—We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave humbly to approach the Throne with the expression of our condolence upon the death of our late excellent and beloved King, and to testify our anxious desire that your Majesty's life may be long preserved as a blessing to your people.

We congratulate your Majesty on succeeding to the Crown of these Realms at a time when, under the sway of our late august Sovereign, this Nation enjoyed a long course of peace and tranquillity.

We trust that the prospect of reviving Commerce and Manufactures, which were for some time obscured, will be still further brightened by wise measures for opening up to our Commercial enterprise new markets for the products of our industry and skill, and that the happiness and prosperity of the People will be still further promoted by wise Legislation, and those improvements in the administration of Justice to which our late august Sovereign so recently directed the attention of Parliament.

In conclusion, we beg to renew our assurance of Loyalty towards your Majesty, and our earnest prayer that your reign may be long, prosperous, and happy.

Which Address, being read and considered, was unanimously agreed to, and directed to be subscribed by the Dean of Guild, and forwarded to Sir Robert Peel, the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

13th October, 1830. •

In the course of the Election of Directors, a question was made how far the regulation regarding the non-payment of Poor Rates ought to be insisted upon in the present Election ; and after discussion, the Meeting agreed to waive the consideration of such an objection in the Election for this year, but reserving the subject entire for future consideration.

Against which Resolution Mr. William Graham, junior, for himself and those who should adhere to him, protested that the same should not be considered or held a precedent in future Elections.

6th December, 1830.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members, specially called upon requisition, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning both Houses of Parliament for a Reform in the Representation of the People in the Commons House, resolutions were passed, which are embodied in the following Petition, which was adopted and ordered to be presented, viz.:—

That at this most important juncture of public affairs, your Petitioners consider it their imperative duty respectfully to approach your Honourable House with a statement of those National Grievances to which, in common with their fellow-countrymen, they have been so long subjected.

That although it be of the very essence of the British Constitution, that the People of the United Kingdom should be fully and fairly represented in the Commons House of Parliament, your Petitioners are humbly of opinion that your Honourable House, as at present constituted, does not truly represent the People of Great Britain.

That while the Population, Wealth, Enterprise, and Intelligence of the Empire have for ages been steadily advancing, the real state of the Commons House of Parliament, which professes to represent, and which ought to represent the People, has been gradually and regularly retrograding from its original purpose, chiefly through the undue influence exercised on the part of the privileged Classes, by which they secure wealth and patronage to themselves and their followers, at the expense and to the great injury of the other and more numerous Classes of Society.

That the undue influence thus acquired by the privileged Classes has now become so great as absolutely to threaten the overthrow of the Constitution; for while in many places those who have the ostensible right of voting are the slaves of some aristocratic family, in others their number is so inconsiderable that the Representative is, in fact, the mere nominee of one or two high-born or influential Individuals.

That while many Burghs, totally insignificant in wealth and population, and thereby offering a ready field for bribery and corruption, are represented in your Honourable House by one or two Members, many of the largest and most opulent Cities in the United Kingdom are without even the shadow of representation.

That while these abuses and imperfections exist in the state of the general Representation of the Kingdom, they are peculiarly and strikingly manifest in the case of Scotland, where the return of Representatives in the different Counties is, with few exceptions, under the absolute control of one or two great families, and the election of Members for Burghs is exclusively confined to Juntos, who, in almost every instance, are self-elected.

That it appears evident to your Petitioners that those evils have now attained to such an alarming magnitude as to render it quite indispensable to the prosperity of the Country and the happiness of Individuals, that a return to the original principles

of the Representative part of the Constitution be immediately made, that such an extension of the elective franchise be granted, and that such rules and regulations be adopted in the election of Members of your Honourable House as will best secure to the nation at large the great and important objects for which all government is instituted.

That your Petitioners deem it in the meantime unnecessary to offer an opinion on the various plans and modifications by which so just and so desirable an object may be accomplished, after the reiterated and solemn professions which those who now direct His Majesty's Councils have given of their determination to propose a full, fair, and free Representation of the People in your Honourable House.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to take into consideration the general state of the Representation of the Kingdom, and particularly that of Scotland, and grant that necessary Reform in the Elective System which, in the wisdom of your Honourable House, may seem at once in accordance with the true principles of the British Constitution and the altered circumstances of the Country, and with the inalienable rights of the People. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

14th December, 1830.

Mr. John Fleming, Convener of the Committee of the House on the Post Office, presented a Report, which was unanimously approved of, and directed to be published in the Glasgow Newspapers, and printed and sent to the various Public Bodies therein mentioned.

Bailie Smith, as Convener of the Committee on the clause regarding Poors Rates, &c., presented the following Report:—

At Glasgow, the 25th November, 1830.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Merchants House, for the purpose of enquiring and reporting to the House on the subject of the Regulation respecting the payment of Poor Rates, which was brought under discussion, and was reserved for future consideration at the Meeting of the Matriculated Members, on 13th October, 1830, the Meeting having taken into consideration the said Regulation, whereby it is provided "That no person is entitled to vote as a Member, or to be elected into the Council, who has not paid up his Poor Rates for the preceding year or years," and considering that doubts exist as to the meaning of the term Poor Rates, in reference to the qualifications of Members of the House, and as many of the Members of the House, in consequence of the extension of the suburbs, have their residence beyond the Royalty of Glasgow, and are not subject to the City Poor Rates, your Committee consider it expedient to recommend to the House that the said former Regulation on this subject shall be held as in disuse, and that, till otherwise provided, all persons being

Merchant Burgesses, and duly Matriculated Members of the House, shall be, without reference to Poor Rates, entitled to all the privileges of a Matriculated Member of the House. Your Committee take leave further to report upon a point which, although not strictly in terms of the remit, is yet closely connected with its general object.

By the law and practice of the House, according to the Regulation of 7th May, 1747, "All Members or Traders within the City, foreign or domestic, wholesale or retail, of a fair character, who are willing to pay the Collector of the Merchants House, for the time, five shillings, Sterling, and engage themselves to pay him four shillings, Sterling, yearly, from and after the time therein mentioned, are to be admitted and recorded in a Book, to be kept for that purpose, as the only Members of the Merchants House," and therefore the right of admission is confined to Traders within the City.

Your Committee would recommend that it be the object of a declaratory Regulation to fix that a Member once Matriculated still retains all his rights and privileges although he change his residence; and also that on account of an alteration of circumstances—from Trade being carried on by respectable persons who do not reside within the City, though in its immediate vicinity—it be a Regulation in future that the simple qualification for Matriculation be that of being a Merchant Burgess, of fair character and credit, and paying the Entry-Money exigible by the Regulations of the House for the time.

Which Reports having been read and discussed, were unanimously agreed to, and appointed to be laid before the Magistrates and Town Council for their approbation, and thereafter to be published in the Glasgow Newspapers.

9th March, 1831.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, specially called upon requisition, for the purpose of addressing His Majesty, approving of the Plan of Parliamentary Reform proposed by His Majesty's Ministers, and to Petition both Houses of Parliament to carry the same into effect, the following Address was agreed to, viz.:—

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave to approach your Majesty with sentiments of the most heartfelt gratitude on the occasion of the Plan of Parliamentary Reform proposed to the House of Commons by your Majesty's Ministers, and to assure your Majesty—

1st. That this House has observed with the most lively satisfaction that your Majesty's Ministers have proposed to the Legislature and to the Country a Plan

of Parliamentary Reform which, if passed into a Law, is calculated to increase the strength, the stability, and the happiness of the British Empire.

2nd. That in the opinion of this House your Majesty's Ministers have, by the announcement of their Plan of Reform, not only redeemed the solemn and reiterated pledges held out to the Nation at large, but have evinced a knowledge of the nature and extent of the evils of which we complain, and of the only means of cure, as well as a determination fearlessly and faithfully to apply the remedy, which is at once honourable to their talents as Legislators and to their patriotism as men.

3rd. That this House is decidedly of opinion that the present Ministerial Plan of Reform is entitled to the warmest support of every real friend of his Country, as being one from the adoption of which the City of Glasgow, the Kingdom of Scotland, and the Empire at large, are likely to derive the most important benefits.

With every sentiment of zeal and dutiful attachment, we beg to offer our earnest prayers for a long duration of your Majesty's Paternal Reign over a People whose loyalty and attachment to your Majesty's person, Family, and Government, cannot but be confirmed by the new proof of your Majesty's gracious disposition to restore their Constitutional Right to a full, fair, and free Representation in the House of Commons.

Signed in name, &c.

(Signed) James Ewing, Dean of Guild.

14th June, 1831.

The stated Quarterly Meeting adopted a Petition to the House of Commons, thus:—

That the Shipping Interest is of paramount importance, not only to the Commercial prosperity, but to the Political safety of the Empire.

That for many years past this valuable branch of Trade has been in a state of extreme depression, from the cost of Building, the expense of Management, and the lowness of Freights.

That British Shipping has now to sustain a powerful competition with Foreign vessels, which are purchased at a lower price, navigated at less cost, and conducted with fewer charges.

That one material cause of this unfortunate result is the heavy Tax on Insurance which attaches to the Shipping of this Country; while some Maritime Nations, such as the United States of America, are entirely exempted from this burden; and in others, such as France and the Free Towns on the Continent of Europe, the duty is comparatively insignificant.

That the same observation is applicable to Insurance on Goods and Merchandise, thus materially affecting the Export of British Manufactures.

That the oppressive magnitude of the present Imports will appear from the fact, that 5s. is levied on a Premium of 25s., thus amounting to 20 per Cent.; the same on 22s. 6d., thus amounting to 22½ per Cent.; 2s. 6d. on 10s., thus amounting to 25 per

Cent.; the same on 7s. 6d., thus amounting to $33\frac{1}{3}$ per Cent.; and 1s. 3d. on 2s. 6d., thus amounting to 50 per Cent. on the sum paid to the Underwriters.

That in place of encouraging the Commerce of the Nation, which depends on Protection from the Sea Risks to which Property is exposed, such a system is effectually calculated to damp the ardour and repress the activity of Mercantile enterprise.

That the impolicy of such burdens will be more apparent from the consideration that Insurance Companies have now been established with large Capitals in the United States of America and several Ports on the Continent of Europe, to which the Commercial Interest is attracted by the comparative cheapness of the charge, and thus the Underwriting business may be gradually transferred to Foreigners.

That the Policy on Maritime Risks requires to be renewed every Voyage, so that the oppression of the evil is increased by its incessant recurrence.

That thus the dispatch of Vessels is so far discouraged, the facilities of Trade fettered, and the prosperity of the Country impeded.

That the Annual Duty on Insurance against loss by Fire is also extremely oppressive, having been raised by successive augmentations to 3s. per Cent., which is in most cases equivalent to 200 per Cent. on the Premium; and that such a charge is not only productive of attempts at evasion, but of limiting the extent which would otherwise be covered by the Landed and other Proprietors, and of operating as a Prohibition against Insurance by the poorer Classes, who are reduced to misery by the calamity of Fire.

That a reduction of Duty, instead of proving injurious, would be actually beneficial to the interests of His Majesty's Revenue, from the great increase of Insurances which would consequently take place.

That as a Bill is about to be introduced into your Honourable House for consolidating and amending the Stamp Duties, your Petitioners avail themselves of the opportunity most respectfully, but earnestly, to solicit your attention to this subject, which is connected with the vital interests of His Majesty's Subjects.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to take the premises into your mature consideration, to diminish the Duties on Marine and Fire Insurances, or to grant such other relief as to your Honourable House may seem meet.

20th September, 1831.

Your Committee, after much deliberation, of this date, 6th January, 1831, resolved to invite, by an offer of Premiums, a Competition of Plans, Sections, and relative Specifications and Estimates for converting the Merchants Park into a Public Cemetery.

This day, 20th May, 1831, your Committee met and opened sixteen Plans, and resolved that they should be exhibited for Public inspection; which was accordingly done.

After the Plans had thus been extensively viewed by the Public for a considerable time, your Committee of this date, 14th June, 1831, having maturely considered the various designs, and having also advised with the following Gentlemen, viz:—Mr.

Smith of Jordanhill, Mr. Thomas Hopkirk, Mr. David Hamilton, Mr. John Baird, Architects, and Mr. Stewart Murray, of the Botanic Garden; and having particularly considered the Report annexed to the Minute, awarded the five Prizes for the best Plans as follows:—

1st Prize, £50, to Mr. David Bryce, Edinburgh.
2nd „ 40, „ John Bryce, Glasgow.
3rd „ 30, „ William Reid, Glasgow.
4th „ 20, „ Scott & Wilson, Glasgow.
5th „ 10, „ Thos. Darling, Glasgow.

By an Order of this date, 16th June, 1831, your Committee resolved that the five which have received the Premiums be put into the hands of Messrs. David Hamilton, John Baird, and Stewart Murray, for the purpose of preparing one scheme, which shall not only combine their merits and avoid their defects, but include such improvements as shall appear proper to themselves.

They were also desired to furnish an Estimate of the Expense, that the whole may be laid before an early Meeting of the House.

The Report of the Committee on the Cemetery was read and approved of, and the whole remitted to the same Committee, with powers to proceed, as they may find advisable and necessary, to carry the objects of the Report into effect.

23rd September, 1831.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called for the purpose of Petitioning the House of Lords in favour of the Measure for Amending the Representation of the People in Parliament, it was Resolved—

1st. That this Meeting being deeply convinced of the absolute necessity of a Reform in the Representation of the Commons House of Parliament, and also of the efficiency, for that object, of the Bill under the consideration of the House of Lords, confidently anticipate from that measure, should it pass into a Law, the most beneficial consequences to all the interests of the Empire.

2nd. That from the high state of expectation and excitement to which the Public mind on this subject is now wound up, this Meeting look with intense anxiety to the farther progress of the Bill, which they earnestly trust will receive the sanction of the House of Lords, as they fear that, in the event of its rejection, they, in addition to the general privation and injury to be sustained, will also have to deplore the conversion of the disappointment and discontent consequent in the Public mind into a settled distrust of the House of Lords, for which, as a Branch of the British Constitution, this Meeting feel unfeigned respect and attachment.

3rd. That these Resolutions be embodied in a Petition to the House of Lords, and that the same be transmitted to Earl Grey by the Dean of Guild.

4th. That these Resolutions be published in the Glasgow Newspapers.

29th September, 1831.

The extract of the Minutes of Council and opinion of Mr. Reddie therein referred to, on the subject of the bearing of the payment of the Poors Rates, were laid before the Meeting.

The House resolve that they do not consider it expedient for the present to make any alteration on the mode of Election by the Matriculated Members.

The Report of the Committee on the abolition of Leets, &c., was read as follows:—

Your Committee having resumed consideration of the Remit made to them on the motion of the Dean of Guild, have to report as follows:—

That with respect to the Leets, they recommend their entire abolition, and with them, of consequence, the distinction of Classes upon which they are founded, namely, that of Foreign and Home Traders.

That in place of the twelve Directors being nominated as heretofore by the Dean of Guild, and twenty-four by the Matriculated Members of the House, the whole thirty-six Directors should in future be elected by the Matriculated Members, at their usual Annual Meeting, by open vote of the Matriculated Members.

That at the approaching Election for this year the Dean of Guild should be elected as heretofore; and your Committee recommend, in unison with the expressed opinion of the Dean of Guild, that in all future Elections the Dean of Guild ought to be chosen by the Matriculated Members of the House in such manner as they shall afterwards regulate.

The approval of the Report was moved and seconded, when Mr. Robert Findlay moved, and Mr. Daniel MacKenzie seconded, the following amendment:—

That it is inexpedient for the House to express any opinion on the changes proposed on its constitution by the Report of their Committee, without a more detailed view than the Report gives of the benefits anticipated from these changes, and of the manner in which they can be carried into practice; and that as no change, even although it were sanctioned by the approval of the House, can be made effectual without the consent of the Magistrates and Town Council, and Trades House, it is particularly inexpedient to make the attempt on the eve of the Annual Elections,

when it is quite impossible that the subject can receive that mature deliberation which its importance demands.

The amendment being negatived by a majority, the House directed that an extract of this Minute should be transmitted in usual form to the Magistrates and Town Council for ratification.

12th October, 1831.

Present, James Ewing, Esquire, Dean of Guild, and the following of his brethren of Council of the Merchants House, viz. :—

The Lord Provost,	John M'Nair, jun.,
William Hamilton,	Robert Gray,
Robert Findlay,	Robert Stewart,
Daniel MacKenzie,	William Gilmour,
William Grey,	George Stirling,
William Dunn,	James M'Kenzie, and
Stewart Smith,	Laurence Hill.
John Strang,	

There was laid before the Meeting the following Extracts of an Act of the Magistrates and Town Council relative to the proposed abolition of Leets, &c. :—

At Glasgow, the 4th day of October, 1831.

The Magistrates and Council of the said City being in Council assembled, the Lord Provost laid before the Council the Extract of the Minutes of the proceedings of the Directors of the Merchants' House, transmitted to him by the Dean of Guild, with an accompanying note of the 30th ult. The Lord Provost further stated that on receipt of it he had transmitted the Extract Minute to Mr. Reddie, first Town Clerk, for his consideration and opinion on the legality of the change proposed, and that his Lordship had received the following Letter from Mr. Reddie, containing his opinion on the subject :—

Glasgow, 3rd October, 1831.

My Lord Provost,—In compliance with your request, I have considered the Minute of the proceedings of the Directors of the Merchants House on the 29th ult., transmitted to your Lordship by the Dean of Guild, and with reference to the legality of the alterations in the mode of election of the Dean of Guild and of the Directors of the Merchants House therein proposed, I beg leave to repeat the advice which I have given to the Magistrates and Council on former similar occasions, particularly in the year 1819.

On the one hand, in point of law, it appears that the award pronounced in the year 1605, by the Arbiters nominated in the Deed of Submission entered into by the

Burgesses of the Merchants Rank and by the Burgesses of the Trades Rank, for the settlement of their disputes, commonly called the Letter of Guildry, contains the earliest recorded Constitution of the Merchants' House, was specially ratified and confirmed in the Reign of Charles II. by Act of Parliament, 1672, c. 129, and again, generally, by the Public statute 1690, c. 18, passed in the Reign of King William and Queen Mary; was expressly found and declared by the Court of Session, in the case of Macausland against Montgomerie, 16th, January, 1793, to be still in force and binding on the parties; and therefore cannot be altered by any authority inferior to a legislative enactment by Parliament; and by the 38th sec. of this decree arbitral, thus confirmed by Statute, the sanction of the Magistrates and Council is declared essential to the validity of any change in the Constitution of the Merchants House.

On the other hand, it appears that in the year 1747 certain alterations were made in the Constitution of the Merchants House, as established by the Letter of Guildry, and were ratified by the Magistrates and Council. But the Regulations thus adopted were declared to be "not inconsistent with the Set;" and as they have been followed by uniform and uninterrupted usage for now the greatest part of a century, I do not think our Courts of Law would hold it competent for the Merchants House, for the Magistrates and Town Council, for the Convention of Royal Burghs, or for any constituted Authority, except the Parliament of the United Kingdom, to alter the Constitution of the Merchants House, as established for so long a period, any more than to change the general Set and Constitution of the City and Royal Burgh of Glasgow.

In these circumstances I beg to submit, as my deliberate and decided opinion, that instead of the Magistrates and Council, the Merchants House, the Trades House, and fourteen Incorporated Trades, each attempting to make separate alterations in their respective Incorporations, which they do not appear to have any legitimate power to make, and which would in all probability lead to unpleasant collision of sentiment and litigation, the Magistrates and Council should, in pursuance of the Resolutions adopted by them in 1819, and again last year, now come forward with a Plan for the improvement of the Municipal Constitution of Glasgow, should communicate on the subject with the Merchants House, with the Trades House, and with any other Public bodies in the City, and should apply to Parliament to give effect, in the shape of a Public or Private Act, to such improvements in the Municipal Constitution as may appear to be most conducive to the Public welfare. It cannot be denied with truth that, under the present Municipal Constitution, the Corporation of the City has for the last fifty years comprehended a large proportion, not only of the most wealthy and respectable, but of the most intelligent, disinterested, and public spirited Members of the Community. But as the present mode of Election may be no longer suited to the increased Population, and to the more widely diffused wealth, intelligence, and enterprise of Glasgow, and no longer agreeable to the views and wishes of the respectable Classes of the Community, the proper and legitimate mode of effecting such improvements as may appear desirable is clearly by an Act of Parliament.

It is not likely that any general and common Plan for the improvements of the Sets or Constitutions of all the Scotch Burghs can be accomplished, in consequence of

the very great differences which exist in the particular circumstances of these Burghs ; and the most expedient course, therefore, seems to be that, without embarrassing themselves with any such general measure, the Magistrates and Council should now apply for a Bill limited to Glasgow alone.

Whether the number of the Members of the Town Council ought to be increased ; how long they ought to remain in office ; how the Lord Provost, Bailies, Dean of Guild, and Deacon Convener, ought to be elected ; how the Councillors ought to be elected ; whether and how many of the Merchants House, the Trades House, or other duly qualified Classes of the Inhabitants ; and various other questions of this nature, will necessarily require deliberate consideration in detail. But in the meantime, and instead of either sanctioning or refusing to sanction the alterations now proposed by the Merchants House, I am humbly of opinion the Magistrates and Council should, without delay, agreeably to their Resolution of 1819, and of last year, make to the Merchants House, and also to the Trades House, the proposal before mentioned, as being in accordance with the line of conduct they have pursued in reference to the Measure of Parliamentary Reform, as being the safest and most free from legal difficulties, and as likely to prove the most satisfactory to the Community at large.

I have the honour to be, my Lord Provost, yours very faithfully,

(Signed) Jas. Reddie.

To the Honourable the Lord Provost.

Which Minute and Letter having been read and considered, the Magistrates and Council delay the farther consideration thereof, agreeably to the standing Order, till next Meeting, to be held on Tuesday, the 11th instant.

At Glasgow, the 11th of October, 1831.

The Magistrates and Council of the said City being in Council assembled, and having resumed consideration of the Extract of the Minute of the proceedings of the Directors of the Merchants House, presented at the Meeting of the 4th day of October instant, with the Letter of the First Town Clerk on the subject thereof, and having deliberated on the matter, Resolve, that instead of either sanctioning or declining to sanction the alterations in the Constitution of the Merchants House, proposed in the said Minute, it will be more expedient, agreeably to the Resolution of the Magistrates and Council in the year 1819 and last year, to bring forward, after due deliberation, a general Plan for the amendment of the Municipal Constitution of the City, to have conference with the Merchants House and with the Trades House on the subject, and to apply to Parliament to sanction and give effect, by a public local Act, to such alterations as may appear to be salutary and conducive to the Public welfare.

The Dean of Guild stated it to be his intention to propose to the Directors to-morrow the appointment of a Committee for the purpose of conferring with the Committee of Council on the subject.

On the Motion of Mr. Thomas Muir, seconded by Mr. Alexander Morrison, it was resolved, that the Report of the Committee appointed

on 20th September last on the abolition of Leets, &c., and approved by the Directors, and transmitted for ratification to the Magistrates and Council of the City, be approved by the present Meeting; that the Dean of Guild and his Council be requested to use every exertion to procure the immediate Reform of the House; and if any unexpected difficulties occur, the Dean of Guild be requested to convene the whole Matriculated Members of the House, in order that such measures be adopted as may be deemed advisable to effect the object in view.

The Dean of Guild and Messrs. James Oswald, James Dennistoun, Robert Findlay, Colin Dunlop, Stewart Smith, James Hutchison, and Robert Stewart are appointed a Committee of conference on Municipal Reform.

18th October, 1831.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members, specially called "to consider the measures to be adopted in the present critical situation of affairs,"

Colin Dunlop moved, seconded by James Oswald, that the following Address be adopted by this House, viz. :—

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,—Impelled by a deep sense of the present perilous situation of these Realms, in respect both of their political and commercial relations, we, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, approach your Majesty with sentiments of the most devoted attachment to your Majesty's person and government, that we may, under circumstances which render it the duty of all good men to stand forward, express our gratitude for your parental and patriotic solicitude for the welfare of your people; our reliance on the talents, wisdom, and integrity of your present Ministers; our fervent hope that you will continue to them your unabated confidence; our firm persuasion that the easiest and safest expedient by which the Commonwealth may be extricated from the difficulties and dangers which beset us, is the exercise of your Royal Prerogative, so as to reconcile the jarring branches of the Legislature, and thereby ensure the enactment of a Law on which the great majority of your Majesty's subjects have fixed their affections, as being essential to the well-being, the good government, the peace, the happiness, the prosperity, and the greatness of the Empire.

Robert Findlay, Esquire, moved, and Daniel MacKenzie, Esquire, seconded, the following amendment :—

We, your Majesty's loyal subjects, the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, beg leave to approach your Majesty with the profession of our devoted adherence to the principles which established your Majesty's Ancestors on the Throne of these Realms, and of our gratitude to Providence for the manifold blessings which we and our predecessors have enjoyed under the mild and paternal sway of the Princes of the House of Brunswick.

We observe, with dismay, doctrines promulgated by many persons professing themselves the friends of liberty, which call on your Majesty to overpower the recent decision of the House of Peers on the subject of the Reform Bill, by a further creation of Members, to an extent unparalleled in History—a measure which would destroy the character of the House of Peers as a deliberative, independent, and important branch of the Legislature, and which would be as much at variance with the principles of the Constitution, and of as dangerous a tendency, as any of those rash and headstrong measures which drove the House of Stuart from the Throne. That while we would receive with gratitude such removal of imperfections as time may have generated, and such comprehensive extension of the Elective Franchise as may be congenial to the more advanced state of knowledge and of wealth in the present age, and particularly the right of sending Representatives to Parliament from this and other great Cities, we solemnly disclaim any desire to obtain these privileges by a proposed infringement of the independence of the House of Peers, being fully satisfied that the abuse demanded of your Majesty's Prerogative would degrade the House of Peers to the rank of mere Recorders of the Acts of the Crown and of the will of the House of Commons, and which might be used as a precedent for setting equally at defiance the Acts of the House of Commons itself.

That a degraded House of Peers would become much worse than a useless burthen on the Country, and would no longer occupy their place in the Constitution as the protectors of Liberty and of Property against democratic fury on the one hand, or against the acts of despotic power upon the other.

After discussion, the amendment was negatived, and the Address carried and ordered to be forwarded by the Dean of Guild to Earl Grey, to be presented to His Majesty, and to be published in all the Glasgow Newspapers.

13th December, 1831.

It was resolved to subscribe from the funds of the House £200 for the purposes of the Board of Health.

16th May, 1832.

At the Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House specially called to consider the propriety of petitioning the House of Commons, and addressing the King, on the present momentous crisis of the affairs of the Nation.

On the Motion of Walter Buchanan, Esq., seconded by Henry Dunlop, Esq., the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1st. That in the present critical and alarming state of Public affairs, this House deems itself imperatively called upon again to make an open avowal of its sentiments upon the great question which has so long agitated, and still continues to agitate, the Country.

2nd. That this House having, in common with the great mass of the British people, felt, as it has repeatedly expressed, an intense interest in the measure of Parliamentary Reform recommended to the King, adopted after mature deliberation by the Commons House of Parliament, and the principles of which were acquiesced in by the House of Peers, has deeply participated in the general disappointment occasioned by the late extraordinary and unexpected change in His Majesty's Councils.

3rd. That this House cannot but, in the strongest terms, express its deep regret that His Majesty has yielded to that baneful advice by which he has been led to withdraw his countenance from a measure so just in itself, and so indispensable to the peace and happiness of the people, and his confidence from an honest and patriotic Ministry, the Members of which carry into retirement the best wishes of a grateful Nation.

4th. That this House, in sympathy with the feelings now so general throughout the Empire, can place no confidence in any Ministry composed of Men, the whole of whose past conduct, whatever their recent professions may have been, proves them to be the deliberate and determined enemies of Reform.

5th. That this House is decidedly of opinion, that in any Petition to be presented to the House of Commons, founded on these Resolutions, it should be recommended to that Honourable House to refuse all Supplies till the three branches of the Legislature shall have concurred in passing the Reform Bill now pending in Parliament.

That the following humble Address to His Majesty, and the following Petition to the House of Commons, founded upon these Resolutions, be transmitted for presentation,—the former to the Duke of Hamilton, and the latter to Mr. Hume,—and that a Committee, consisting of the Requisitionists, be appointed to superintend the transmission of the same:—

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

We, your Majesty's Loyal Subjects, the Dean of Guild and Matriculated Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, approach your Majesty, humbly to express our regret at the retirement from the Councils of your Majesty of the Ministers who introduced those great and patriotic Measures of Reform which had received the

sanction of the Commons House of Parliament, and had united the Nation at large in their support.

We had hoped that your Majesty would have exercised your Royal Prerogative by the creation of the requisite Number of Peers to have ensured the success of those measures, as necessary to the permanence of the British Constitution, the rights and liberties of the People, and the peace and prosperity of the Country.

We feel dismayed at the momentous crisis occasioned by your Majesty's acceptance of the resignation of those Ministers in whom the Nation reposed the most implicit confidence.

And we do most humbly implore your Majesty to withhold your countenance from all persons who would advise your Majesty to withdraw your support from those Reform Measures, entire and unmutated, and to recall to your Majesty's Councils those honest and patriotic Statesmen who introduced them, as the only means of averting the horrors of Insurrections among a highly excited people, and of securing to your Majesty a peaceful Reign over a happy Nation.

The Petition to the House of Commons set forth—

That your Petitioners have watched the progress of the Bills which were introduced into your Honourable House for amending the Representation of the People with intense interest and anxiety, under the conviction that the prerogatives of the Crown, the authority of both Houses of Parliament, and the rights and liberties of the Nation, would be secured by their adoption.

That your Petitioners have been dismayed by the retirement from His Majesty's Councils of the Ministers who introduced those Bills, and in whom the Country reposed most implicit confidence, and apprehend that any successful attempt to mutilate or impair the efficiency of the Reform Measures which those Ministers announced, and which your Honourable House sanctioned, will lead to insurrections, and be productive of incalculable evils to all the great interests of the Nation.

That your Petitioners feel grateful to your Honourable House for your recent patriotic address to the King in support of those measures.

And humbly pray that it may please your Honourable House to
withhold all Supplies until the Bills pending in Parliament for amending the Representation of the People shall have passed both Houses, unimpaired and unmutated, and shall have received the Royal Assent.

Resolved that the proceedings be published in all the Glasgow Newspapers, and in the London Globe.

12th June, 1832.

The House resumed the consideration of the state of progress of the Committee on the Reform of the Municipal Constitution of the Burgh; and as the Reform Bill is now in effect passed, the following Members

were added to the Committee on Conference on Burgh Reform, viz.:— Alex. Graham, Chas. Hutchison, John Leadbetter; and it was resolved that an Extract of this Minute be transmitted to the Lord Provost, urging a Conference as soon as possible, so as to enable the Directors to report to their Constituents.

[The Minutes of the House, of July, August, and September of this year, contain long reports of Proceedings of Committees; the substance of which reports, however, is given in the Minute which follows.]

1st October, 1832.

A full and detailed Report by the Directors of the proceedings of the House since the Election of the Dean of Guild (Mr. James Ewing), particularly in relation to the Reform of Parliament, of the Constitution of the Merchants, and of the Municipal Government of the City Corporation, having been read, it was unanimously approved of, and on the Motion of Mr. Robert Stewart, seconded by Mr. Thomas Atkinson, the thanks of the House were presented to the Dean of Guild and the Directors for their exertions relative to the whole matters contained in the said Report, which is as follows:—

Report of the Directors of the Merchants House to the Matriculated Members.

On the great question of Reform three separate questions have occupied the attention of the Merchants House: First, Of the Representation of the People in the Commons House of Parliament; Second, Of the Constitution of the Merchants House; and lastly, Of the Municipal Government of the City Corporation.

On the first, and by far the greatest of these questions, that of Parliamentary Reform, it is scarcely necessary to remind the Members of the warm interest which this House has taken, and of the various meetings which have been held.

The first assembly of the Matriculated Members was on the 6th December, 1830, when general Resolutions were adopted in favour of a full, fair, and free Representation of the People, but without entering on the various plans and modifications by which so just and desirable an object might be accomplished.

The second was on the 9th March, 1831, after the Ministerial Plan was brought forward, when it was unanimously resolved that it was entitled to warm support, as calculated to increase the strength, the stability, and the happiness of the British Empire.

The third was on the 23rd September, 1831, after the Bill had passed the Commons, but appeared to be in jeopardy in the House of Lords, when it was resolved to reiterate the approbation of this House, to express their earnest hope that it would receive the sanction of the Lords, and to declare the fears of public disappointment and discontent which might follow from its rejection. On all these occasions Petitions were forwarded, in terms of the Resolutions, to the Legislature. After the rejection of the Bill in the House of Lords, another General Meeting was held on the 18th October, 1831, when, after a debate, it was resolved to present an Address to the King, expressive of confidence in the talents, wisdom, and integrity of His Majesty's Ministers, and praying His Majesty to exercise his Royal prerogative, so as to reconcile the jarring branches of the Legislature, and thereby ensure the enactment of a Law on which the great majority of the People had fixed their affections, as essential to the peace, happiness, prosperity, and greatness of the Empire.

The fifth Meeting of Matriculated Members was held on the 16th of May last, after the resignation of Earl Grey's administration, and the appointment of the Duke of Wellington's, when it was unanimously resolved again to address the King, expressing the general disappointment occasioned by the change in His Majesty's Councils, and the hope that His Majesty would have exercised his Royal prerogative by the creation of Peers, and praying His Majesty to withhold his countenance from all persons who would advise him to withdraw his support from the Reform Measures, and to recall to his Councils those honest and patriotic Ministers who introduced them.

A Petition was at the same time presented to the House of Commons to withdraw all supplies till the Bill pending in Parliament for amending the Representation of the People should have passed both Houses.

Such is a short Abstract of the proceedings of the Merchants House in reference to the great Political Question which was soon afterwards happily carried. So long as it remained in a state of suspense, and so long as the public mind continued in a consequent state of agitation, it was in vain to expect that the Minor Measures, as to the amelioration of the Corporate Bodies of this City, could receive that attention which they merited.

The second of these questions was the Reform in the Constitution of the Merchants House. By the Regulations of 1747 it is required that, on the second Wednesday after the Election of the Magistrates, the same day with and after the Election of the Dean of Guild, "the Members, with the Dean of Guild, shall meet in the Merchants Hall, at which time the Dean of Guild by himself shall make choice of twelve out of the recorded Members, either foreign or home traders, and shall Leet the remainder of the recorded Members in twenty-four Leets, whereof twelve Leets shall contain foreign traders, and the other twelve Leets shall contain home or inland traders, and, by a plurality of votes of the recorded Members, make choice of one out of each Leet of the said twenty-four Leets, making up twenty-four persons, who, with the twelve made choice of by the Dean of Guild, are, with the Merchant Magistrates and the Collector of the House for the time, to constitute and compose the Dean of Guild's Council of

the Merchants House, and with him to represent the Community of the Merchants House for the ensuing year."

The practical tendency of such a system having been to place in the hands of the Dean of Guild an undue influence in the nomination of Members, if he chose to exercise the power, the subject of a Reform in the Constitution was brought before the Directors on the 29th September, 1831, when the following Report of the Committee was presented:—Your Committee having resumed consideration of the Remit made to them, on the Motion of the Dean of Guild, of date the 20th instant, have to report as follows: That with respect to the Leets they recommend their entire abolition, and with them, of consequence, the distinction of Classes on which they are founded—namely, that of foreign and home traders. That in place of twelve Directors being nominated, as heretofore, by the Dean of Guild, and twenty-four by the Matriculated Members of the House, the whole thirty-six Directors should in future be elected by the Matriculated Members at their usual Annual Meeting, by open vote of the Matriculated Members. That at the approaching election for this year the Dean of Guild should be elected as heretofore; and your Committee recommend, in unison with the expressed opinion of the Dean of Guild, that in all future Elections the Dean of Guild ought to be chosen by the Matriculated Members of the House, in such manner as they shall afterwards regulate. After a debate, the adoption of the Report was carried, and afterwards sanctioned by the Meeting of Matriculated Members held on the 12th October last. As the Letter of Guildry required that "whatever Acts and Statutes the Dean of Guild and his Council shall happen to make and set down, further than what is above expressed, at any time afterwards, he shall be subject to make the Provost, Bailies, and Council acquainted therewith, and shall crave their ratification and allowance from them, otherwise to be of no effect." The Dean of Guild, agreeably to the instructions of the House, presented this new form of Constitution to the Magistrates and Council for their approbation, when it was remitted to the City Assessor for his legal advice. Mr. Reddie accordingly took the subject into consideration, and gave an articulate opinion, that under the existing circumstances of the Burgh such a change could not legally or safely be effected; that the recorded Constitution of the Merchants House could not be altered by any authority inferior to a Legislative Enactment by Parliament; but that he would recommend that the Public Bodies should come forward with a general Plan for the improvement of the Municipal Constitution of the Burgh, which is no longer suited to the increased Population and widely diffused Wealth, Intelligence, and Enterprise of Glasgow, and no longer agreeable to the views and wishes of the respectable Classes of the Community; that such a Plan should embrace the Constitution of the Merchants House among various other improvements; and that application should be made to Parliament for leave to bring in a Bill limited to Glasgow alone.

In consequence of this opinion, the Magistrates and Council resolved, on the 4th October, 1831, without either sanctioning or declining to sanction the proposed alterations in the Constitution of the Merchants House, and in conformity with a resolution so far back as 1819, to bring forward, after due deliberation, a general Plan for the amendment of the Municipal Constitution of the City, to have conferences with

the Merchants House and with the Trades House on the subject, and to apply to Parliament to sanction and give effect by a Public Local Act, to such alterations as may appear to be salutary and conducive to the Public welfare.

Although it thus appears hopeless to complete the whole of the proposed Alterations previous to the first Election, it was hoped by some of the Members that these might be accomplished in part. It was therefore resolved, on the 24th July last, on the Motion of Mr. Stewart, to appoint a Committee for the purpose of considering and reporting on the Scheme, "so far as it relates to the Leets and Election of the Directors of the House," as it was considered highly eligible to abolish the former, and throw the latter quite open. A very full Memorial was accordingly prepared, together with a special Report by Mr. Stewart, both of which were laid before Mr. John A. Murray, whose opinion is now produced for the information of the Members, and which concurs with that of Mr. Reddie, that the Merchants House cannot with safety abolish the Leets of the Directors, and make an election by open vote, either with or without the consent of the Magistrates and Council. This opinion having been fully considered by the Committee, they agreed, on the 24th September, to lay a Report before the Directors, which is now submitted to the Meeting, and which, while it admits the unsuccessful result of their exertions, urges the necessity of as early a Municipal Reform as possible. It should thus seem indispensable that the nomination of twelve Directors by the Dean of Guild, and the election of the remaining twenty-four by Leets, should proceed once more (but it is to be hoped for the last time) in the accustomed form.

The third and last subject of consideration by the Directors was the important question of Reform in the Constitution of the City Corporation.

It has already been stated that the Magistrates and Council had resolved, in the first instance, to take up the subject themselves, to deliberate on the most eligible Plan for a Reform, and afterwards meet with the Committees from the Merchants and Trades Houses, for a full and free conference as to the amendments which ought to be made.

The Directors accordingly understand that the Magistrates and Council appointed a Committee of their own number for the consideration of this great question, who had various Meetings, and after long deliberation agreed to make a Report, which was submitted to the joint Committees of the Merchants and Trades Houses.

The substance of their united deliberations was as follows:—That the number of Councillors, in place of thirty-two, should be increased to forty, and to remain five years in office, so that there should be an Annual Election of eight. That the qualification for a Councillor should be Entry as a Burgess, and the occupation of a dwelling-house within the Royalty assessed for Taxes at £20; or a place of Business within the Royalty, and a dwelling-house in the vicinity assessed at £30.

That the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House should freely elect their Directors without Leets; that the Directors should elect the Dean of Guild, who should become one of the Members of the Council, and also choose one other qualified person, so that the Merchants House should annually return two Members of Council. That the Trades House, after certain Reforms in their internal Constitution, should, in like

manner, elect their own Convener and another qualified person, so as also to return two Members of Council.

That the remaining four Members of Council should be elected by the Burgesses occupying houses or places of business rented at the Parliamentary qualification of £10. That Rolls of the qualified Burgesses should be made up annually. That the Election should be by Open Vote, according to the Parliamentary plan of Registration.

That no person should be re-eligible as a Councillor till he has been two years out of office. That the Lord Provost and three Bailies, from each rank of the Merchants and Trades (if such distinction of Ranks should now be continued), should be elected annually from the Members of Council. As also the Bailie of the River, and the Bailie of Gorbals.

That the Lord Provost, one Merchant, and one Trades Bailie, may be elected for a second year; but no other Magistrates to be re-eligible till they have been one year out of office. That the Offices of Treasurer and Master of Works should be abolished, and that a Municipal Union with the Lands of Blythwood, under fair and equitable Regulations, would be highly expedient.

Such was the result of the united deliberations of the Committees from the Town Council, the Merchants House, and the Trades House. The Report was brought before the Directors on the 6th September, when it was moved and carried that the consideration of the subject should be postponed till proper Returns could be procured of the number of Burgesses—first, who were entered with the Merchants House; secondly, with the Trades House; and lastly, with neither.

A Committee was accordingly appointed for this purpose, who reported that the number of Burgesses matriculated with the Merchants House, now alive, appeared to be 821; that the number of those who are entered with the fourteen Incorporations of the Trades was 3,504; but that, without almost incalculable labour, it would be difficult to form even an approximation to the number of unincorporated Burgesses. For thirty years the whole number of Burgesses entered were stated by the Extractor, Mr. Fisher, to be about 10,000; but he had no means of ascertaining who were alive. It was, however, the opinion of the Committee, from various considerations, that the number of Burgesses who were not entered with either the Merchants or Trades Houses, within the Parliamentary bounds of the City, might not at present exceed from 1,000 to 1,500 persons. This Report was submitted to the Directors on the 27th September, and the question again considered, when the Dean of Guild stated his opinion, that, without entering at present into any particular details, and after mature deliberation, it appeared to him premature to attempt the forming of a new Civic Constitution for Glasgow; that the general question of Burgh Reform would undoubtedly occupy the early consideration of the new Parliament; that His Majesty's Government would in all probability bring forward a Plan for remodelling the whole system; that under such circumstances it appeared more than doubtful whether, before a full consideration of that question, they would allow a Bill to be brought in for any one Burgh in particular; and that, without at all relaxing the exertions of the Merchants House as to the consideration of the Plan best adapted for the peculiar situation of this City, it would be more expedient to

postpone any final decision till such time as the whole subject came before Parliament, by whom it should be determined whether they should commit the right of election to Burgesses, either generally or with a certain qualification, or to Householders at a particular rental; or whether they would admit Corporations, such as the Merchants and Trades Houses, to become electoral Colleges.

These views met with the general concurrence of the Directors; and it was accordingly resolved to postpone, in the meantime, the consideration of the subject, but to recommend to their successors in office to continue their enquiries, and most anxiously to keep in view the earliest possible attainment of an efficient Reform in the Municipal Constitution of this City.

The Directors have been most anxious, before quitting office, to submit their whole management in these great questions to their Constituents. They feel conscious of having done the best in their power. They are fully aware of their own imperfections, and now leave it with the Matriculated Members to decide how far they have discharged their duty. New Directors may be more successful, but they certainly cannot be more solicitous to consult the dignity, the character, and the welfare of this important Corporation.

8th October, 1832.

There was read a Report by the Committee on the Cemetery and its Approaches, and the purchases of Property by the Merchants House.

In pursuance of the instructions of the House, the Committee on Property and on the Cemetery have opened the direct and level Road from Duke Street to the Quarry, which will greatly improve the value of the Quarry and the extensive Landed Property of the House, by avoiding the former steep, narrow, and crooked access through Forefield Lane and Ladywell Street, that operated as a heavy Tax on the transit of Road metal from the Quarries belonging to the House.

The total unsuitableness of the Ladywell Lane as an access to the proposed Cemetery made it absolutely necessary for the Committee of the House, in the due discharge of the duties entrusted to them, to endeavour to obtain a more westerly and direct and easy communication betwixt the Fir Park and the body of the City.

[After detailing several plans which had been under consideration, the Report continues—]

Your Committee, impressed with the indispensable necessity of an Access to the Cemetery, connecting it directly with the Southern and Western parts of the City, turned their attention to a plan for purchasing up the Ground to the South of the High Church yard to such an extent as to bring the Fir Park into connection with the Cathedral and its Ancient Cemetery, and with the fine large square, displaying in one view the Infirmary, the Cathedral, and our own noble and picturesque wooded Terrace.

The existence of loud complaints for want of Public Burying ground induced the Lord Provost, on the part of the City Corporation, to enter readily into a plan for extending area accommodation so urgently demanded by a population so enormously increased within a distance so very accessible, and yet in a situation so secluded; and it was considered a most desirable object that the City should have an option to purchase whatever extent of this ground the House could spare after improving their property and effecting their meditated Access.

The Heritors of the Barony, who are at a very serious annual expense for burying Paupers, also contemplated being admitted, on terms to be fixed, to share the use of such additional ground.

The difficulties already experienced in obtaining any reasonable terms by an open treaty with separate Proprietors suggested the propriety of these delicate negotiations being entrusted to the Rev. Mr. William Black and to Mr. Robert Ferrie, as on behalf of the Heritors of the Barony, who were known to want such ground; and by their prudent Management the Committee, after various Meetings and consultations, and viewing the ground and considering the Offers of the many Proprietors, considered it to be for the interest of the House to conclude the following purchases:—

1st. From twenty-one pro indiviso Proprietors, an old Orchard and a line of Houses lying to the West of the Molen-dinar Burn and the South of the High Church yard, extending to 4,719 yards 5½ feet, which, at the price of 6s. the square yard, is	£1,415 17 8
2nd. From James Seaton, a piece of ground to the East of Drygate Lane, with Houses thereon, extending to 650 yards 3 feet, which, at the price of 6s. the square yard, is	212 16 0
3rd. From Robert Paterson, a Property in Drygate Lane, consisting of Houses and ground, at the price of	735 0 0
4th. From James Crichton, a piece of ground, with Houses thereon, which intervenes betwixt the Properties Nos. 1, 2, and 3, at the price of	850 0 0
	<hr/> £3,213 13 8 <hr/>

The City Corporation lately applied for an offer of a portion of the ground thus acquired, with a view to interring in it Pauper and other Patients dying of Cholera; but, after mature deliberation, your Committee deemed it their duty to decline the treaty, being satisfied that the respectable Class to whom the House must look for occupying both their newly acquired ground and the Fir Park would consider it an insuperable obstacle that such Cholera patients were admitted into the contemplated Cemetery.

The Corporation have since closed a bargain with the Directors of the Blind Asylum for a portion of ground, as an addition to their Burying ground; and your Committee are decidedly of opinion that, at no distant day, such will be the difficulty of obtaining such accommodation, within any reasonable distance, as the

extension of the Population must necessarily demand, as well as the progress of that refinement which is opposed to the accumulation of the Dead in large masses within the City, that the Money of the House lying in Bank cannot ultimately be more profitably employed than in retaining the whole ground and Houses thus acquired, which at present yield a Rental equal to between four and five per cent on the price.

Your Committee have obtained Plans and Estimates for Tunnelling the Molendinar Burn, and filling up the intermediate hollow, so as to connect this newly acquired Property with the Fir Park, from whence a road will terminate on the Infirmary Square, near the South-west corner of the Barony Church.

This road will form a substitute for the servitude foot Road from the Town's Mill towards the High Church, and thereby relieve the Property of the House from any other intersecting servitude than the Town's Mill lead, which may be conducted under ground by an arrangement for mutual advantage with the City Corporation, and thus greatly add to the beauty and security of the whole Property of the House.

The following is the state of the funds expended in laying out the grounds:—

CEMETERY.	
Cash paid for Labour and Cartage,	£581 16 4
„ „ Tools,	21 17 0
	<hr/>
	£603 13 4
Cash paid for Superintendent's Salary, four Months,	20 0 0
There has also been expended in Labour, purchase of Tools, Cartage, &c., the proceeds of Sand and Brushwood sold,	63 14 6
	<hr/>
	£687 7 10
	<hr/>

On the Motion of Mr. Matthew Perston, seconded by Mr. Neal Thomson, the Report was approved of.

17th January, 1833.

The Clerk reported that he had made the following Return to the Requisition regarding the Scottish Burghs:—

RETURN to a Requisition by James Reddie, Esq., First Town Clerk of Glasgow, made in pursuance of a Resolution of the House of Commons, dated 17th July, 1832, requiring, *inter alia*, “Statement setting forth the Numbers of the Members of Council of such Burgh, with a List of such Members for each of the twenty years preceding the term of Michaelmas, 1831, distinguishing such as are elected by the Council itself, and such as

are elected by Corporations; and showing the Number of Members of which each Corporation selecting any Member of Council consisted at the said term of Michaelmas, 1831; and showing the nature, extent, and quality of any exclusive privilege of Trade, or otherwise, possessed or claimed by each such Corporation, the Fees exacted on the entry of persons therewith, and the sums levied annually from the Members thereof," addressed to me.

I, John Douglas, Clerk and Legal Assessor of the Corporation of the Merchants House of Glasgow, do hereby Certify, that the Corporation of the Merchants House of Glasgow annually presents a Leet of three Members of the said House to the Town Council of the City of Glasgow, from which Leet is elected the Dean of Guild, the Official head of the said House, and who as such is a Member of the said Town Council.

That at Michaelmas, 1831, the number of the Members of the Corporation of the said House was 687.

That the said Corporation of the Merchants House neither possesses nor claims any exclusive privilege of Trade; but the said Corporation possesses various "powers and privileges, which, by Law or practice, presently are, or have been, vested in the Dean of Guild and Merchants House," such as the following:—The Lord Provost and three of the five Bailies, or ordinary Magistrates, and twelve of the twenty-three ordinary Councillors of the said City, are selected out of the Members of the said Corporation of the Merchants House; but with, or in which selection of the Lord Provost, Bailies, and Councillors, the said Corporation of the Merchants House has no interference or control.

From the Members of the said Corporation of the Merchants House are selected four brethren or assistant Judges, in the Court of the Dean of Guild, who, with the other four assistant Judges chosen by the Trades House, try and determine, and the said Dean of Guild, who is the presiding Judge, have a very extensive jurisdiction in all matters relating to the erection and repair and condemnation of Buildings, and the state of Weights and Measures used by all Traders within the said City, the repair of Streets, the determination of Boundaries, and various other important questions affecting Property within the said City.

From their Members must also be selected the Directors of various public Institutions and Hospitals within the City, and the Commissioners of Statute Labour, Bridewell, &c.

The House also possesses the power of presenting several Bursaries to students in the University of Glasgow, and administering various extensive Properties and Funds for Charitable purposes, besides the general power and privilege of holding and administering Heritable and Personal property for "the defence of the just rights and privileges of the fair Trader," and "the advancement of the common weal of the Town," and the various other Public and Political purposes of the House.

That each Member pays at entry or Matriculation Ten Guineas, and that no other Fee or Sum is levied from the Members annually or otherwise.

A copy of the Printed Account of the Merchants House, furnished by Mr. Hill, the Collector, accompanied said Report.

The Collector and Clerk reported progress in the Action against John May, for his refusal to pay his fine of £80 to the funds of the House, imposed according to custom, for refusing to accept of the office of Bailie; and the House unanimously instructed them to proceed with the action and to recover the fine.

The Dean of Guild reported that the Committee on the Post Office had agreed to present a Memorial to the Lords of the Treasury on the subject of procuring an arrangement for a new and more suitable Post Office for the City; which the House approved of, and instructed that Committee to proceed in the matter as they should judge to be for the advantage of the Public and of the House.

The Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting the following Letter from Principal Macfarlan:—

College, 29th December, 1832.

Sir,—You are probably aware that the Presbytery of Glasgow are engaged in making a Transcript of part of their Ancient Records, extending from 1592 to 1690, which, after having been long out of their possession, were recovered only to be nearly destroyed by the fire which consumed the Tron Church about 40 years ago. The Transcript is now in progress, and through the accuracy and skill of the Gentlemen employed turns out more perfect than the appearance of the original Manuscript gave reason to anticipate. The mass of information which these Records contain, illustrating not only the Ecclesiastical but the Civil History of the City and neighbourhood, with the state of Society and progress of Manners in that Age, is very great and important, possessing a powerful interest for all who value an acquaintance with Antiquities of their Country. The only difficulty under which the Presbytery labours arises from the want of Funds to meet the very heavy expense already incurred, and which must be encountered in the progress of the undertaking, if continued. In these circumstances they venture to look for assistance from the Citizens of Glasgow in the prosecution of an object so intimately connected with the History of their City; and I am authorized to convey through you to the highly respectable body over which you preside the expression of their hope that, either as a Corporation, or if that be thought inconsistent with the objects of their Institution, as Individuals, its Members may be disposed to afford such pecuniary aid as will prevent the Work from being abandoned as hopeless.—I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) D. Macfarlan.

The Dean of Guild, &c., &c., &c.

The House resolved to grant Twenty Guineas for the above object.

12th March, 1833.

There was laid before the House the following Report:—

To the Lord Dean of Guild and the Committee of the Merchants House for converting the Merchants Park into a Public Cemetery.

Agreeably to your instructions communicated to us at your last public Meeting, to examine and report upon the best manner of forming the approach to the new Cemetery from the head of the High Street, either by the erection of a Bridge across the Molen-dinar Burn at the Kirk Lane, or upon the south side of the last purchased ground; or otherwise to ascertain if there is any other possible way in which an approach may be made equally convenient, ornamental, and at the same time less expensive, such as by tunnelling the Burn the whole length of the new purchased ground, or only part, or as much of it as will form the breadth of an approach mound, raised so as to effect a proper communication with the grounds of the Fir Park,—we, the Subscribers, having again visited and carefully examined the grounds, and all the attendant and incidental localities in connection therewith, after our best deliberation, the following is the result, and Report accordingly:—

The valley to the North, at the bottom of Kirk Lane, is in breadth of considerable less extent than that at the southmost line, or any other intermediate space between these two lines; and the banks of the former being considerably steeper than any of the other places, a less quantity of Masonry and making up of the approach to the Bridge will be required; and here also there is every reason to expect that better foundations will be obtained. Of course, a Bridge in this situation will be altogether less expensive than that upon the South or any other site. Not to mention the Bridge being placed upon this line will allow the approach to be more central to the principal new burying ground.

To the tunnelling of the Burn the whole length of the last purchased ground upon the West, and forming the two banks into one general surface, or only tunnelling so much of the Burn as will form a basis broad enough for raising a mound of soil upon, we have given our special attention. At an early period this mode of treating the ground had not escaped us. The idea apparently is good, but it is better in theory than it will work in practice; for it should be remembered that the Public Road leading to the Bleaching Greens and other property to the North, as likewise to the Kirk Lane, must be kept open; otherwise two tunnels will be required, one for the Burn, and the other for the people: this last covered way will be found objectionable. Not to mention the expenses, half a century might elapse before as much soil could be had to make the valley surface anything like sightly or tolerable; and to retain the two extremities of this filled-in soil two massive walls of masonry will be required.

A Bridge of Mound, raised up to a useful height, will be liable to the same objections; besides, it will not be ornamental.

In balancing every consideration and circumstance in connection with this object, it will be found that the erection of a Bridge upon the Kirk Lane will be the most substantial, perfect, ornamental, least expensive, and the most expeditious way of making an approach from that North quarter of the City.

Kirk Lane is already, as it were, a formed approach, and got without farther loss of ground; whereas, if the southmost line was adopted, the breadth of a servitude road must be taken from, and at the expense of, your own property; and still, although this new South Road was given to the Public, the servitude through and between your grounds to the Bleaching Green, and other properties to the North, must remain for at least an indefinite period, if it may ever be possible to get rid of this inconveniency; but should it ever be done away with, the tunnelling of the Burn, and all the other susceptible improvements at the bottom of the Valley, may be equally effected whether the Bridge is erected upon the North or South extremities of the grounds.

To the above reasons for our preferring the North to the South line for the erection of a Bridge, we may be permitted to add, that there are associations connected with our best feelings which, even in this improved age, it may be right not to lose sight of, and will at least do no harm; and if effect is to be taken into consideration, much is to be gained by placing the Bridge as near in contact with the Cathedral as possible. It will be in harmony with the finely broken Walls of the adjoining Burying grounds—the whole altogether forming a beautiful picturesque object, from the already formed approaches.

From the foregoing statements, you will see that we are of opinion that of all the contemplated modes for an approach to the New Cemetery we consider a Bridge to be decidedly the most eligible; and in preference to any other situation for the Bridge that at Kirk Lane appears to us the best, not only as regards its central position to the new ground, but as also combining ornament and effect with economy, and as being the easiest and the most expeditious way of gaining a desirable access to these grounds.

Our Lord Dean of Guild and Gentlemen, we have the honour to be, with very great respect, your Obedient Servants,

(Signed) David Hamilton, John Baird, Stewart Murray, George Milne.

Glasgow, 2nd February, 1833.

2nd April, 1833.

At a Meeting specially called to take into consideration the Bill to alter and amend the Laws for the Election of the Magistrates and Councils of the Royal Burghs of Scotland,

The following amendment was moved by Mr. Robert Findlay, seconded by Mr. John Fleming, and carried by a majority of ten to a minority of seven:—

That this House is of opinion that the Constituency for the election of the Magistrates and Council of the City, alike according to justice and to constitutional principles, ought to consist exclusively of the

Burgesses, either by direct or by delegated suffrage, as may be deemed most expedient, because they alone have a vested right in the funds to be administered, and a permanent interest in their judicious management.

27th June, 1833.

The House having taken into their serious consideration the Bill lately brought into Parliament for altering the Act commonly called the Bankrupt Act, unanimously resolved that the following Petition be signed and sealed, and transmitted to the Lord Provost for the purpose of being presented to the House of Commons, as containing the sentiments of the House on that important measure, viz.:—

That a Bill has been introduced into your Honourable House, entitled, "An Act for the better administration of the Law of Bankrupts, and for rendering the payment of Creditors more equal and expeditious in that part of Great Britain called Scotland." Your Petitioners beg leave to express their deep astonishment and regret at those provisions of the said Bill by which it is proposed to deprive Creditors of the right of choosing their own Trustee for the management of the Bankrupt Estate, and to introduce a complex, cumbrous, and expensive machinery, composed of certain permanent official Trustees appointed by the Crown, a Principal and two Assistant Clerks of Sequestration, an Accountant-General for Scotland of all realized Bankrupt funds, a Sub-Factor to assist the official Trustee when required, and, in certain cases of a disputed management by the latter, to the Sheriff-Clerk of the County,—all of which, as referred to in the Bill, the Petitioners consider palpably injurious to the interests of all parties concerned.

Your Petitioners must also declare their severe disappointment that although the confinement to the Court of Session of the Judicial procedure connected with Bankruptcy has long been felt as a serious grievance, yet the exclusive jurisdiction of that Court is, excepting in retail Estates of small value, still to be continued; whereas the Petitioners, in common with the whole Mercantile community, confidently expected, as they were entitled to expect, that the Judicial procedure under all Bankruptcies whatever, would, as has ever been the case in all other Mercantile questions, be rendered competent to the Sheriff or Judge Ordinary of the district, thereby relieving the Estates from the burden of extra Law Agents and Counsel in Edinburgh, with all the tedious, troublesome, and expensive forms of the Supreme Court.

Your Petitioners further object to the haste with which the specific measures that have now been brought forward are proposed to be carried through in the present Session, instead of allowing, as your Petitioners submit ought to have been done, the

whole period between the present time and the next Session of Parliament for the deliberate consideration of this important Bill in all its details.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said Bill may not pass into a Law, and that your Petitioners be heard by themselves, or their Counsel, or Agents, or proper Officers, against the same.

The House also took into consideration the Commission lately issued by the Crown for enquiry into the expense and mode of administering Justice and other legal proceedings in Scotland, and they resolved to memorialize the Home Secretary on the subject.

[The Petition was to the effect, that there might be added to the Commission at least an equal number of gentlemen connected with the Manufacturing and Commercial districts of Scotland, including Members of the Provincial Bar.]

7th August, 1833.

The House met and adopted the following Petition to the House of Peers, and which was transmitted to the Duke of Hamilton for presentation :—

That in the Bill now pending before your Right Honourable House, entitled, “An Act to alter and amend the Laws for the election of the Magistrates and Councillors of the Royal Burghs in Scotland,” your Petitioners pray for the following alterations, as applicable to the City of Glasgow, viz :—

That two Councillors in number, annually, in the City Council, should be allotted to each of the two great Corporations in this City—the Merchants and the Trades Houses; and that as the said Burgh Reform Bill requires that one-third of the Council shall be annually elected, and that every Member of the Council shall serve three years in office, and that as the two Councillors to be chosen annually from each of the two Corporations are for the triennial period of the Bill, therefore, at the first general election, when the whole Council are to be appointed, the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House should elect six Councillors, the Fourteen Incorporated Trades six Councillors, and the remainder be elected by the Wards of the City.

That, in addition to the Parliamentary qualification, the Municipal Electors shall also be Burgesses.

That the number of the Common Council be forty-five.

That the Annual Election of Councillors appears to be so regulated by the Bill that the one-third going out of the Council may comprehend a Member for each Ward into which the City may be divided by the Statutory Commissioners, so that annually an election for supplying this third may be necessary over all the Wards in the City; but that in place of this, according to the practice in the case of electing the Glasgow Commissioners of Police, a certain fixed rotation of Wards should be established by the Act,

whereby only the Councillors elected by a fixed third of the Wards should go out in one year, and that, as in the Police Wards, the Annual Election would be confined to that third of the Wards whose Councillors had gone out. That after such Councillors shall have gone out of office, they shall not be re-eligible as Councillors till after the lapse of one year from their so going out.

That the Provost should not be elected by the Council, but by the whole qualified Electors, and from the whole qualified Electors.

That said Merchants House being the first Corporation of Burgesses in the City, and having always possessed the privilege of electing the Dean of Guild, should not be deprived of that right, but ought to continue to exercise it for the benefit of their fellow-citizens as heretofore; and that the Dean should be elected by open vote of the whole of the Matriculated Members of the House, without Leets; and that such Dean of Guild be one of the two Councillors to be annually elected by said House.

That, instead of five, there ought to be seven Bailies for said City.

That neither the Provost nor Treasurer should necessarily remain in office more than one year, but the Provost should be capable of being re-elected a second year; but that he should not be re-eligible to that office for more than two years consecutively; and that the Provost may be re-elected after having been one year out of office.

That Glasgow being the first Commercial and Manufacturing City in Scotland, it ought not to be deprived of enactments demanded by its importance, and suited to its local usages and institutions, because some of these enactments, though perfectly consistent with the spirit of the Bill, may be inapplicable to the smaller class of Burghs. That if Glasgow, therefore, cannot be introduced into a Schedule of the present Bill by itself, a Bill should be brought in for the exclusive purpose of regulating its Municipal government.

May it therefore please your right Honourable House that the said Bill in its present form may not pass into a Law, as applicable to the said City of Glasgow; but that either a Schedule with suitable clauses should be introduced into the said Bill, or a separate Act be passed for the exclusive purpose of regulating the Municipal government of Glasgow, and that proper clauses be introduced into the pending Bill for saving the rights of the said Corporation of the Merchants House, and that the Petitioners be heard by themselves, their Agents, and Counsel, in support of their Petition, and against such parts of the said Bill as affect their interests, and have such relief in the premises as to your Right Honourable House, in your wisdom, shall seem proper.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

26th September, 1833.

Inter alia, the Dean of Guild (Mr. James Hutchison) having declined to accept of any reimbursement for his personal expenses while going to and remaining in London, and attending to the interest of the House during the dependence of the Royal Burgh Reform Bill, the House resolved to request the Dean of Guild's acceptance of some honorary mark of their sense of his disinterested and able services and attention in London to the interest of the House during the dependence of the Bill in Parliament.

1st October, 1833.

There was laid before the Meeting a Report, dated 30th September, 1833, of the Committee on a proposed Honorary Compliment to the Dean of Guild.

The Committee report it as their opinion that, the Dean of Guild having most handsomely refused to receive payment of his actual expenses incurred in going to, and remaining above six weeks in London, attending to the interest of the House, during the progress of the Royal Burgh Reform Bill, your Committee, in execution of the remit to them by the House, beg leave to Report that the Dean of Guild be requested to accept of a piece of Plate of the value of Sixty-five Sovereigns, with a suitable inscription, expressive of the sense of his disinterested, zealous, and able services entertained by the House.

The House unanimously approved of the said Report, and authorized the Collector to make payment of the sum thereby recommended, and remitted to the same Committee to carry the object of the Report into effect.

3rd October, 1833.

The Report of the new Regulations for the House, as finally agreed to by the Directors, was read at length, and sundry amendments agreed to thereon; whereupon the House unanimously resolved to enact the Regulations of the House therein contained, and that a copy thereof,

authenticated by the Dean of Guild and Clerk of the House, and with a completed List of the Names of the Matriculated Members, showing the order in which they stand on the Matriculation Roll, be printed, and notice given by advertisement that the said Regulations and List will be found by the Members at the office of the Clerk of the House.

18th October, 1833.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called "to consider the Report on the subject of Professional Men being Burgesses and Members of the House,"

The following Report was presented, and read, and agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed, and laid before the Meeting of the Matriculated Members called on Tuesday next:—

At the Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, on the 3rd current, the Directors were instructed to investigate and report to a future Meeting of the Matriculated Members—

1st. Whether any, and what proportion of the Burgess fine, paid by Burgesses of the Merchant Rank at entering, is paid into the funds of the Merchants House.

2nd. Whether Professional Men have been in use to be entered Burgesses of the Merchant Rank.

3rd. Whether Professional Men have, from the earliest records of the House, become Matriculated Members of the House upon having been admitted Burgesses of the Merchant Rank.

The Directors have caused a search to be made by the proper Officer who keeps the Record of the Burgesses, and have ascertained that, from the earliest period of the Burgess Record till the present time, Writers and other Members of the learned professions have been entered as Merchant Burgesses; and that the usual proportion of the Merchant Burgesses' fine, or entry-money of such Burgesses, has been paid into the funds of the Merchants House; and it also appears from the Records of the Merchants House that, from the commencement of the Matriculation Record down to the present time, Professional Men, being Merchant Burgesses, were entered as Matriculated Members of this House.

The Directors then being joined by a number of the Matriculated Members, proceeded to lay the Foundation-Stone of the Cemetery Bridge; which being done, the Dean of Guild and the remanent Directors returned to the Hall, and instructed the Clerk to

draw up a Report of the proceedings, to be engrossed in the Records for the consideration of a future Meeting.

At Glasgow, the 18th of October, 1833, at Two o'Clock Afternoon.

The Dean of Guild and a great number of the Directors of the Merchants House, the Lord Provost and four of the Bailies of Glasgow, and the principal Bailie and resident Bailies of Gorbals, and a great number of the Matriculated Members, being assembled at the Cemetery, to proceed to lay the Foundation-Stone of the Cemetery Bridge, in presence of a great concourse of the Citizens,—

After an appropriate Psalm, Principal Macfarlan offered a Prayer suitable to the occasion.

The Dean of Guild then caused a bottle to be deposited in the Foundation-Stone, containing various documents, hereinafter enumerated, and a Plate with the following inscription :—

“The Foundation-Stone of the Merchants House Cemetery Bridge was laid on the 18th day of October, A.D. Eighteen hundred and thirty-three, in the Fourth year of the Reign of our Most Gracious Sovereign William IV., by James Hutchison, their Dean, in presence of the Directors.”

The following inscriptions are graven on the Stone No. 1, to be placed near the East end of the Bridge, and No. 2, in an ornamental Obelisk, opposite to the East end of the Bridge :—

No. 1—

THIS BRIDGE
WAS ERECTED BY
THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW,
TO AFFORD A PROPER ENTRANCE TO THEIR CEMETERY,
COMBINING CONVENIENT ACCESS TO THE GROUNDS,
WITH SUITABLE DECORATION TO THE VENERABLE CATHEDRAL
AND THE SURROUNDING SCENERY,
TO UNITE
THE TOMBS OF MANY GENERATIONS WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE
WITH
THE RESTING-PLACES DESTINED FOR GENERATIONS YET UNBORN,
WHERE THE ASHES OF ALL SHALL REPOSE
UNTIL
THE RESURRECTION OF THE JUST,
WHEN THAT WHICH IS BORN A NATURAL BODY
SHALL BE RAISED A SPIRITUAL BODY;
WHEN THIS CORRUPTIBLE MUST PUT ON INCORRUPTION;
WHEN THIS MORTAL MUST PUT ON IMMORTALITY;
WHEN DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY.

BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO TRUSTETH IN GOD, AND
WHOSE HOPE THE LORD IS.







CHURCH OF SAN GIOVANNI

No. 2—

THE NECROPOLIS,
OR
ORNAMENTED PUBLIC CEMETERY,
WAS CONSTRUCTED BY
THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW,
IN THEIR PROPERTY,
TO SUPPLY THE ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED
BY A RAPIDLY INCREASING POPULATION,
AND, BY EMBELLISHING THE PLACE OF SEPULTURE,
TO INVEST WITH MORE SOOTHING ASSOCIATIONS
THAT AFFECTIONATE RECOLLECTION OF THE DEPARTED
WHICH IS CHERISHED BY THOSE WHO SURVIVE,—
A. D. MDCCCXXXIII.
E'EN FROM THE TOMB THE VOICE OF NATURE CRIES.

The Dean of Guild having then in due form laid the Foundation-Stone, addressed the Lord Provost and others present, to which the Lord Provost replied.

After a suitable Prayer from the Rev. William Black of the Barony, Principal Macfarlan pronounced the customary Benediction. After three cordial cheers, the Dean of Guild, attended as before, returned to the Town Hall.

22nd October, 1833.

Mr. Robert Findlay then made, and Mr. Henry Paul seconded, the following Motion:—

That no Member shall be eligible as a Director for a longer period than three years consecutively; but after he has been at least one year out of the Direction he may be re-eligible.

Mr. Andrew Stevenson Dalglish made, and Mr. William Graham seconded, the following Motion:—

That the Directors be requested to appoint a Committee to draw up a Memorial for the opinion of Counsel as to the legality of, in future, excluding Members of the Learned Professions from being Members of the House; and that in drawing up said Memorial they should employ as their Law Adviser a Gentleman not a Member of the Merchants House.

10th December, 1833.

The House resolved unanimously to contribute Two Hundred Pounds to the House of Refuge.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had received from the Clerk of Police a communication, requesting a Committee of the House to be named, to confer with Committees of the City Council, and Trades House, and Police Board, on the subject of the refusal of the Trades House to contribute to pay the sum of _____ in name of Bucket Money, which the Merchants House and Trades House had agreed to pay to the Police Funds.

The House having always regularly made their stipulated payment for Bucket Money, which of course ought also to be paid by the Trades House, decline to appoint any such Committee of conference as unnecessary.

16th January, 1834.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House of Glasgow, specially called to take into consideration the proposed changes on the Bankrupt Law of Scotland, -

It was unanimously resolved—

1st. That the Merchants House of Glasgow, forming a comprehensive Representation of the great Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of this City and contiguous district, has always taken an active part in the improvement of the Bankrupt Law.

2nd. That the great expense and delay of the present system of administering the Bankrupt Law exclusively by the Supreme Court, often forces Creditors to accept any offer of voluntary composition, and deters them from investigating and opposing Schemes for carrying through fraudulent discharges.

3rd. That the extension to the Sheriff of the same powers of administering the Bankrupt Law which have been hitherto exclusively confined to the Supreme Court, would enable Creditors more conveniently, cheaply, and expeditiously to manage their own common concerns, to enforce a fair disclosure and equal division of a debtor's funds, and to check fraud.

4th. That the Scotch system of Bankrupt Law, by the simplicity of its machinery—a single Trustee and Commissioners, eligible and removable by the Creditors—requires only to be worked by accessible and cheap Local Courts, to give entire satisfaction to the public; and this House would deprecate, as totally uncalled for and most injurious, any new control on the present free agency of the Creditors as a body, by official persons or proceedings, leading only to needless embarrassment and expense.

5th. That these Resolutions be communicated by the Dean of Guild to the Lord Advocate of Scotland.

A Committee was appointed to publish and circulate these Resolutions, and to adopt all necessary measures for carrying this object into effect.

4th March, 1834.

At a Meeting specially called to consider further the Water Companies' Consolidation Bill, it was moved by Mr. Robert Findlay, seconded by Mr. William Greig, that the following Petition be adopted, and presented to both Houses of Parliament:—

That an abundant supply of pure Water, at a moderate price, is of the first importance to this great City and Suburbs, not only for the health and comfort of the Inhabitants, but also for securing the prosperity and extension of the many important branches of Manufacture on which they depend for support.

That this great object has been for many years secured by the competition of the Glasgow and Cranstonhill Water Companies, incorporated by Acts of Parliament,—the latter Company in the year 1808,—avowedly on the principle, as recited in the preamble of their Act, of affording a wholesome check, by competition, to the Monopoly prices which, it was apprehended, might otherwise, in process of time, be exacted by the other Company.

That, in point of fact, the competition betwixt these Companies had of late years been carried to such a ruinous length that it at last compelled them to form an union, which they are now attempting to consolidate and render permanent by the introduction of a Bill into Parliament, entitled, "A Bill for the better supplying the City and Suburbs of Glasgow with Water;" and that while your Petitioners, on the one hand, have no desire that competition should be pushed to such a length as may be ruinous to those engaged in it, on the other hand, it is equally the duty and the interest of this Corporation, representing the Mercantile body of Glasgow, respectfully to represent to Parliament the dangers which might arise from permitting the present Bill to pass into a Law, without the insertion of such statutory and just provisions as may both fix the Rates chargeable on Rental and otherwise, upon a reasonable scale, and the valuation of Stock on which the maximum of Profit may be made eligible by the Act, according to an equitable principle, which, while it may allow a fair remuneration to the Company, may at the same time protect the Public from extravagant charges.

That, above all, it is important that effectual provision be made in the said Bill for securing the Public against a Monopoly in the supply of Water, by clauses for establishing, in case of need, of another Water Company, as being the most effectual of all securities against the dangers of Monopoly prices in the supply of an article so essential to the health and prosperity of this great Community.

26th September, 1833.

Inter alia, the Dean of Guild (Mr. James Hutchison) having declined to accept of any reimbursement for his personal expenses while going to and remaining in London, and attending to the interest of the House during the dependence of the Royal Burgh Reform Bill, the House resolved to request the Dean of Guild's acceptance of some honorary mark of their sense of his disinterested and able services and attention in London to the interest of the House during the dependence of the Bill in Parliament.

1st October, 1833.

There was laid before the Meeting a Report, dated 30th September, 1833, of the Committee on a proposed Honorary Compliment to the Dean of Guild.

The Committee report it as their opinion that, the Dean of Guild having most handsomely refused to receive payment of his actual expenses incurred in going to, and remaining above six weeks in London, attending to the interest of the House, during the progress of the Royal Burgh Reform Bill, your Committee, in execution of the remit to them by the House, beg leave to Report that the Dean of Guild be requested to accept of a piece of Plate of the value of Sixty-five Sovereigns, with a suitable inscription, expressive of the sense of his disinterested, zealous, and able services entertained by the House.

The House unanimously approved of the said Report, and authorized the Collector to make payment of the sum thereby recommended, and remitted to the same Committee to carry the object of the Report into effect.

3rd October, 1833.

The Report of the new Regulations for the House, as finally agreed to by the Directors, was read at length, and sundry amendments agreed to thereon; whereupon the House unanimously resolved to enact the Regulations of the House therein contained, and that a copy thereof,

authenticated by the Dean of Guild and Clerk of the House, and with a completed List of the Names of the Matriculated Members, showing the order in which they stand on the Matriculation Roll, be printed, and notice given by advertisement that the said Regulations and List will be found by the Members at the office of the Clerk of the House.

18th October, 1833.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called "to consider the Report on the subject of Professional Men being Burgesses and Members of the House,"

The following Report was presented, and read, and agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed, and laid before the Meeting of the Matriculated Members called on Tuesday next:—

At the Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, on the 3rd current, the Directors were instructed to investigate and report to a future Meeting of the Matriculated Members—

1st. Whether any, and what proportion of the Burgess fine, paid by Burgesses of the Merchant Rank at entering, is paid into the funds of the Merchants House.

2nd. Whether Professional Men have been in use to be entered Burgesses of the Merchant Rank.

3rd. Whether Professional Men have, from the earliest records of the House, become Matriculated Members of the House upon having been admitted Burgesses of the Merchant Rank.

The Directors have caused a search to be made by the proper Officer who keeps the Record of the Burgesses, and have ascertained that, from the earliest period of the Burgess Record till the present time, Writers and other Members of the learned professions have been entered as Merchant Burgesses; and that the usual proportion of the Merchant Burgesses' fine, or entry-money of such Burgesses, has been paid into the funds of the Merchants House; and it also appears from the Records of the Merchants House that, from the commencement of the Matriculation Record down to the present time, Professional Men, being Merchant Burgesses, were entered as Matriculated Members of this House.

The Directors then being joined by a number of the Matriculated Members, proceeded to lay the Foundation-Stone of the Cemetery Bridge; which being done, the Dean of Guild and the remanent Directors returned to the Hall, and instructed the Clerk to

and being otherwise well advised on the subject, they resolve to present a Memorial or Petition against the same, and appoint a Committee of six Members to prepare the same, which they authorize and request the Dean of Guild to sign and seal in name and behalf of the House, and also to correspond with other Corporations and Individuals on the subject.

24th February, 1836.

The House appointed the following Committee,—viz., Messrs. Hugh Cogan, William Graham, and Henry Dunlop—Mr. Dunlop Convener—to prepare either a Petition to the House of Commons or a Memorial to the Treasury, or both, as they shall see fit, praying a repeal of the Import duty on Cotton Wool, and the Dean of Guild to sign and seal the same in name and behalf of the House, and to correspond with any other places connected with the Cotton Manufacturing as they may think most likely to promote that object.

10th March, 1836.

The Committee on the River and Harbour Bill reported that, inter alia, they had had different Meetings, both by themselves and with the Deputations or Committees of other Bodies, and that a Meeting of a general Sub-Committee had been held yesterday, the Minutes of which they begged leave now to report :—

That the Deputation should, in the most uncompromising and determined manner, use every exertion to effect an alteration in the Constitution of the River Trust, so that for all time to come it shall be a separate and independent Trust.

That the River Trust, in this new form, should consist of twenty-five Members,—namely, thirteen from the Town Council and twelve from the Ship Owners and the payers of River and Harbour dues, which twelve shall be totally unconnected with the Town Council.

That there is a fundamental objection to the Corporation continuing to hold the exclusive possession of the River Trust, in that they are elected from political considerations principally, and that the Electors rest their right of suffrage upon a tenure which has only a remote connection with the River and Harbour; and therefore, although it

may be expedient to admit a certain proportion of representation from the City Council, there can be no well-grounded claim for continuing to them the exclusive administration of the Trust.

That this view of the matter appears to be very much confirmed when it is considered that the Magistrates and Town Council have no patrimonial interest in the River and Harbour; on the contrary, having Lands belonging to the Corporation in various quarters to dispose of, it may so happen that the interests of the Town Council, as curators of the public property, may come in direct collision with the interests of the River and Harbour, by combining in the persons of the Magistrates and Town Council the anomalous character of being the buyers and sellers of the same property at the same time.

That the Municipal duties of the Magistrates and Town Council being so multifarious and extended, and daily becoming more so, especially if, as recommended in the Report of the Burgh Commissioners, the boundaries of the City be extended to the Parliamentary lines, it cannot be expected that Gentlemen engrossed in these Civic avocations should have time deliberately to attend to all the bearings of so difficult and important a Trust as that of the Harbour and River, and that therefore it would be highly expedient, acting upon the universally allowed principle of the division of labour, that there should be a separation betwixt the two, so as to allow the Members of the Committees of the Town Council to devote all their valuable services to the other interests of the City.

That when it is taken into view that the Revenue from the River and Harbour is more than double that of the Corporation from all its other sources, it must surely appear very inconsistent that the River Trust should continue to be a mere appendage to the Corporation Trust; and that whatever may have been the case in its early history, it is now requisite that there should be a distinct and unencumbered Trust, whose proceedings shall not, as at present, be under the control of a body of men who are very far from being free from political bias and party feeling.

That in the election of the Committee of the City there is little or no consideration paid by the Electors whether they whom they vote for are or are not qualified to discharge the important office of River Trustees; and that there would be a much better chance of procuring Gentlemen qualified for this office were a fair proportion of them chosen out of and by that part of the Community who are vitally interested in the good of the Trust; and surely those who contribute so largely to the Revenue of the River Trust should have something to say in the representation and management of those large funds, so as to prevent all prodigal expenditure, but at the same time to encourage every rational improvement for the River and Harbour.

That, in looking to Liverpool, where, if anywhere, there might be a reason for vesting the right of the Harbour, &c., in the hands of the Corporation, seeing that they hold so large an interest in that property, we see that, feeling the inconvenience and impropriety of the combination of Municipal Rulers and Harbour Trustees, there is likely to be a change, and a plan fixed upon for transferring the Trust to a separate and distinct body of Trustees; and there surely can be much less ostensible reason for our

Corporation cleaving to an office which the majority of the Community think, and think rightly, would be better entrusted to an appropriate body of management.

That as to the mode of election of the twelve Trustees, suggested in a previous part of this Report, and which are recommended to be taken from the Ship Owners and the payers of River and Harbour dues—1st. In so far as relates to Ship Owners: That the Owners of Vessels

From 50 to 100 Tons should have	One Vote.
“ 100 to 200 Tons,	Two Votes.
“ 200 Tons and upwards,	Three Votes.

But in the two last-mentioned cases their additional votes shall be allowed only when their Vessels are owned by more than one individual; if they belong to one person, or to an ordinary Mercantile Company, then, in either case, they shall be entitled but to One Vote.

2nd. As to Ratepayers: That the elective franchise should be extended to all who may have, within the twelve months previous to the election of the Trustees, paid River and Harbour dues to the amount of Ten Pounds, to be ascertained by the production of proper Receipts; and that a clause should be introduced into the new Bill, that those Owners or Agents of Steam and other Vessels, who pay the dues in cumulo, shall be bound to render the charge for dues of the River, Harbour, &c., separate and distinct from the charge of Freight, and shall be bound, in case of dispute, to make Oath that the rates so charged are, as near as they can estimate, the fair and just proportion.

21st March, 1836.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House of Glasgow, within the Tontine Tavern, specially called to consider the River Bill,

The Chairman stated that the object of the present Meeting was to consider the subject of a Petition to Parliament, and to grant a sum from the funds of the House for supporting the Petition against the River Trust Bill.

It was moved and seconded,

That this House do present a Petition to Parliament against the Bill brought into Parliament by the River Trustees for further deepening and improving the River Clyde and enlarging the Harbour of Glasgow, and for constructing a Wet Dock in connection with the said River and Harbour; and that a sum not exceeding Two Hundred Pounds be voted from the funds of this House towards defraying the expense of opposing the Bill in Parliament; but that it be most expressly declared that on no account whatever the House or its funds be made responsible for any further sum than the said £200, as the House consider that nothing but the importance of the object to the Merchants House, and to the Community, could have

justified the present grant; and that a copy of this Minute be transmitted, with the Petition of the House, to the Chairman of the general Committee for opposing the Bill, and to the Solicitor engaged for the opposition; and that the existing Committee on this subject do prepare the Petition, and that the Chairman shall sign and transmit the same, and request the Dean of Guild, who is at present in London, to give his influence and assistance to promote the objects of the Petition,—and which was as follows:—

That, by existing Statutes, the powers for deepening, widening, and improving the River Clyde and the Harbour of Glasgow are vested in Trustees composed of the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow, with five persons chosen by them.

That the said Trustees have introduced into Parliament a Bill, entitled, “A Bill for further deepening and improving the River Clyde and enlarging the Harbour of Glasgow, and for constructing a Wet Dock in connection with the said River and Harbour.”

That the Corporation of the Merchants House, comprehending the great proportion of the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Glasgow and its suburbs who are deeply concerned in the proper and economical application of the Rates levied on the said River and Harbour upon the shipping and goods of the said Members of the said Corporation, conceive it would be for the advantage of the said Members if the Trust powers for managing the affairs of the said River and Harbour were vested in a New Board of Trustees, altogether separate and distinct from the Town Council and the five persons named by them, and composed of thirteen persons delegated by the said Town Council, and twelve persons, Ratepayers on shipping and goods using the said River and Harbour, who pay not less than £5 annually of such Rates.

13th April, 1836.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to consider a Petition in favour of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway,

The House resolved to authorize a Petition from the House against the Bill presently in Parliament for establishing a short line of Railway from Woodneuk, Lanarkshire, to the Union Canal near Falkirk, and in favour of the level thorough line of Railway betwixt Glasgow and Edinburgh; but that it be most expressly declared that on no account whatever the House or its funds be made responsible for any expense whatever in consequence of so agreeing to petition; and that a copy of this Minute be transmitted, with the Petition of the House, to the Chairman of the Subscribers to the level thorough Railway, and to the Solicitor engaged for the opposition.

The House at same time Memorialized the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, thus:—

That the Corporation of the Merchants House of Glasgow comprehends the great proportion of the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Glasgow and the suburbs who are very deeply interested in convenient buildings, and an efficient number of Officers in the Custom-house of Glasgow.

That, in point of fact, the greatest inconvenience is felt by the shipping interest of this Port from the inadequacy of the Office and deficiency in the number of Officers employed in the collection of the Revenue of Customs.

That when the present Custom-house was first occupied, twenty years ago, the amount of Tonnage arriving at the Port was only an eighth, and the yearly Revenue collected little more than a fortieth part of its present amount, and that the number of Officers has not been increased for ten years past, during which period the Revenue has increased eight fold.

That if it were not quite superfluous to add anything to these statements, to show the urgent necessity of the case, it might be further represented to your Lordships, that, great as has been the increase in the Trade of the Port of Glasgow, a still greater increase may with certainty be anticipated from the extensive improvements now in progress and contemplated in the River Navigation, which must speedily render the present inconvenience, unless a remedy be provided, an intolerable grievance; and therefore pray that it may please your Lordships to give this subject your early and favourable consideration, and to give the needful relief, both as regards the accommodations and security of the Office and the appointment of the requisite establishment of Officers.

23rd June, 1836.

At a special Meeting of the Directors, called to consider the new Municipal Bill, the Dean of Guild presented the following Report from the Committee appointed to consider the Bill for the better regulation of Municipal Corporations in Scotland:—

Your Committee being instructed, in the first instance, to report what occurs on the very important changes meditated by this Bill, whether more immediately affecting the peculiar rights and interests of the Corporation of the Merchants House, as an important branch of the great City Corporation, or as a numerous and wealthy portion of the Citizens, comprising the great body of the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Glasgow and its suburbs, deeply concerned in the good government and prosperity of a great and rapidly increasing community, beg to submit, *inter alia* —

Of the Bill as affecting the peculiar rights and interests of the Corporation of the Merchants House.

That the Merchants House are very far from being opposed to improvement in Municipal policy is best proved by the fact that, immediately after the passing of the Scotch Burgh Reform Act, of which the principle was to preserve untouched the old Burgh Magistracy and Courts, and which on that principle bestowed on the Dean of Guild, the official head of that Corporation, a seat as of old in the City Council, and provided for the House the power of making bye-laws for the election of office-bearers, the House abrogated the ancient close Constitution, and substituted an annual election of the Dean of Guild and all the Directors by the universal suffrage of every recorded Member of the Corporation, amounting to Twelve Hundred of the most respectable Traders in Glasgow.

It would therefore be a very strange return for such a liberal exercise of powers just bestowed by the Burgh Reform Act, if an Act entitled an amendment were to expel from the City Council the official head of a body which had so greatly exceeded the Municipal Reform Act in the liberality of its new Constitution.

It will also be kept in view that the admission of the Dean of Guild to a seat in the Reformed Town Council of Glasgow was a matter of stipulation—like many of the compromises by which opposition to great reforms is usually obviated—and the faith of Parliament should not be lightly treated, more especially when no ground can even be pretended for depriving the official head of the Merchants House of the seat in the City Council, enacted as an essential part of the Act which bestowed representative Councils on the Burghs of Scotland.

On the contrary, the official head of the great Mercantile Corporation maintains with the Town Council a portion of that graceful and useful connection which was formerly kept up by the Dean of Guild being a Member of the Town Council, as the second Magistrate in rank in the City, as recognized by various Acts of Parliament.

The peculiar jurisdiction of the Dean of Guild, in a most important branch of causes within Burgh, is interwoven with the whole institutions and recorded precedents of the law of Scotland; his legal assessor in his Court has always been the senior Legal Assessor of the Burgh for the direction of the Dean of Guild's Jury of Merchants and Tradesmen in the nice questions of law which frequently occur in the exercise of his judicial authority regarding boundaries, encroachments, servitudes, or nuisances, the erection of new and repair of old buildings, and the regulation of Weights and Measures. The Dean of Guild is a County Magistrate and Commissioner of Supply, and keeps a principal key of the Town's Charter Chest, and is a Trustee of various Turnpike Road Trusts, under Acts of Parliament, and Convener, by Act of Parliament, of the Merchants for the election of Commissioners to audit the Accounts of the Clyde Trust and of the Harbour of Port-Glasgow, Preses of the Pilot Board, and a Director of the City Hospital, besides being a Member of many other public Trusts.

It cannot be pretended that such a breach of the faith of Parliament, pledged in the Burgh Reform Act for the seat of the Dean of Guild in the Council, is demanded by any invincible necessity of adhering to any inflexible principle of uniformity, which was found to be equally useless and impracticable in the great measures for reforming the national as well as municipal representation, in which the necessary compromises

with the principle of an impracticable uniformity were effected by the introduction of such special clauses as that of retaining the seat of the Dean of Guild in the Council, and also by various schedules, a principle and mode of compromise sanctioned in the very Bill now under consideration. Nor can it be said that the present Bill would be impeded or impaired in effecting its general objects by retaining the clause in the Burgh Reform Act regarding the Dean of Guild and Merchants House.

Nay, it must be kept in mind that the clause regarding the special powers of the Merchants House and the Dean of Guild was introduced as a matter of inevitable necessity, to prevent the total dissolution of the Corporation, and the extinction of its powers of electing its office-bearers, transmitting and managing its property and affairs, which would have resulted from the Burgh Reform Act, which took away the ancient machinery by which the Dean of Guild was elected in the body of the Town Council from leets sent up to it by the Merchants House. Unless, therefore, the clauses in the Burgh Reform Act respecting the Dean of Guild and Merchants House be retained, the House will lose its head and Directors, and the legal power to replace and continue them.

Surely Parliament will never deliberately so break faith and so destroy the liberal Constitution which it gave the power to create, and which has been so liberally exercised, with the inevitable practical effect to destroy the very means of electing the second Magistrate of the City, a Judge having a peculiar jurisdiction, without which the Law Books and the Reports of the Directors in a great and nice branch of the law will become unintelligible and inextricable; for it will not surely be pretended by any constitutional lawyer that such an important Judge should be elected by a friendly society.

Nor can it be necessary to extirpate the clauses in the Burgh Reform Act regarding the Dean of Guild and Merchants House on any ground of extinguishing monopoly, either in trade or otherwise, for the Merchants House, as will be seen from a copy of their liberal Constitution, is a Corporation, political indeed, as well as charitable, but neither possessing nor claiming any monopoly in trade. The House derives, indeed, a very trifling annual sum as the proportion of the fines of entry of Merchant Burgesses, which they have not of late shown any desire to enforce, and which they are perfectly willing to abandon rather than it should stand in the way of any reasonable amelioration of our Municipal policy.

Which Report having been read and fully discussed, the House, on the Motion of Mr. Robert Findlay, seconded by Mr. William Brown, unanimously approved of the same, and resolved that it should be printed and circulated, and the House also resolved that a Petition founded on the Report should be framed by the Committee on the Bill, signed by the Dean of Guild on behalf of the House, and transmitted to His Grace the Duke of Hamilton, Lord Lieutenant of the

County, for presentation to the House of Peers, and to Mr. Oswald, for presentation to the House of Commons, and that a copy of the Petition and Memorial be sent to the Lord Advocate and to Lord William Bentinck, and to such other persons as the Committee may think proper.

The following is a copy of the Petition :—

Unto the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled. The Petition of the Merchants House of Glasgow.

Humbly Sheweth,—That the Corporation of the Merchants House of Glasgow comprehends the great body of the Mercantile and Manufacturing interest of the City of Glasgow and Suburbs, whose official head, the Dean of Guild of Glasgow, the second Magistrate of the Burgh, and possessing a peculiar jurisdiction in questions respecting the erection of new, and repairing old buildings, and regarding boundaries, encroachments, and nuisances, and the regulation of Weights and Measures, and being the head of various Parliamentary and other Public Trusts, possessed a seat, *ex officio*, in the Town Council from its earliest existence.

That by the Act 3rd and 4th William IV., Cap. 76, to alter and amend the Laws for the election of Magistrates and Councils of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, it was, *inter alia*, enacted (§ 21) “that nothing herein contained shall be held to impair the right of the Merchants House to elect their own Dean of Guild, or Directors, or other lawful Officers for the management of their affairs, but that, on the contrary, the said body shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be in all cases entitled to the free election, in such form as shall be regulated by them, of the said several office-bearers, and other necessary officers for the management of their affairs, without any interference or control from the Town Council, or any Member thereof;” and by Section 22nd of the said Act, it is enacted “that the person elected, or to be elected, in manner hereinbefore provided, to the Office of Dean of Guild by the Merchants House of Glasgow, shall, in virtue of the said election by the said Merchants House of Glasgow, be a constituent Member of the Town Council of the said City, and shall enjoy all the powers and perform all the functions now enjoyed or performed by such office-bearer in the said City.” And by Section 23rd of the same Act, it is further enacted, that all the other rights and privileges of the Dean of Guild are saved and preserved entire.

That a Bill is now pending in Parliament, entitled, “A Bill for the better regulation of Municipal Corporations in Scotland,” whereby, *inter alia*, it is proposed to be enacted that, “after the completion of the new election of Councillors and Magistrates in each Burgh, the Provost, Magistrates, Councillors, and Office-bearers now in Office therein shall go out, and their whole powers, duties, and functions shall cease and determine, except only when any one or more of such persons shall be again elected under the provisions of the said Bill.”

That the practical effect of this Bill, if passed into a Law, will be, that the faith of Parliament, pledged in the clauses above recited, and other clauses of similar import in the Act, which forms the great Parliamentary Charter of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, will be grossly violated by expelling the Dean of Guild, the official head of the Merchants House, from his seat in the Town Council of Glasgow, which he possessed from the earliest period of its history till it was reformed, and after it was reformed; and the Merchants House will be deprived of its official head, and Directors, and necessary Office-bearers, and the power of continuing their existence, of holding and transmitting their property, or administering their affairs; and the great Mercantile body of Glasgow, composing that House, will be deprived of their control over the most important Parliamentary and Public Trusts, and especially the Harbour and River Navigation Trust, so important to the Mercantile interest, in which they had always held a direct representation by the Dean of Guild, elected by them, being a leading Trustee, through his ex-officio seat in Council, of the Harbour and River Trust.

That the Merchants House, so far from being opposed to reasonable reforms in our Municipal policy, exercised the powers reserved to them by the clauses already referred to in the Royal Burgh Reform Act, in the most liberal manner; for immediately after the passing of that Act the House abrogated their ancient close Constitution, and remodelled it upon the very liberal principle of choosing their Dean of Guild and whole Directors by an annual election and universal suffrage of every recorded Member of the body, amounting to about twelve hundred of the most respectable traders in Glasgow.

That the Merchants House neither possesses nor seeks any monopoly of trade, and formerly derived only the very small sum of about Fifty Pounds annually from the Merchant Burgess fines, which they have not lately shown any disposition to enforce, and which they do not wish to retain, to the obstruction of any proper amelioration of the Municipal system of Glasgow.

That the seat in the Town Council, preserved for the official head of the Merchants House by the solemn enactments of the Royal Burgh Reform Act, so far from impeding the fair working of that Act, has been, and, if the faith of Parliament be not violated, will be the means of connecting the great Mercantile body with the Reformed Council, and assuring them of a due attention to their peculiar interests in the Harbour and River Navigation; whereas such a violation of the faith of the Burgh Reform Act would directly tend to create and perpetuate injurious jealousies betwixt that important class and the middle classes of Citizens, by whom the bulk of the Town Council is chosen.

That such a wise compromise with a punctilious and impracticable principle of uniformity secured the success of the great measure of Reform, both National and Municipal, as is proved by the schedules of both, and the reserved rights of the Dean of Guild and Merchants House in the Royal Burgh Reform Act of Scotland, and by the schedules attached to the very Bill now pending.

That there are in the pending Bill some important innovations on the general

Municipal Law of Scotland, as well as the constitutional maxims the oldest and most cherished by the Nation, on which the Merchants House, as an important portion of the Citizens of Glasgow, humbly submit to the wisdom of Parliament a few brief observations.

That the addition to the ancient Royalty of so large a territory, subjected to County and Burgh taxation, complicated with the differing Poor Rates of both territories, liable to King's Cess, three-fourths of which falls on Heritages, and one-fourth levied by an assessment on Trade, with the consequently various and complex systems of surveys, levies, accounts, and vouchers for separate assessments, do not seem to have been provided for with the necessary legislative precision in the present Bill, introduced as it has been at a period of the Session too advanced to admit of the requisite deliberate consideration by the public, of a measure which will work such radical changes on the property, condition, rights, and liabilities of every class of a community so very extensive as Glasgow and its Suburbs, comprehending a population of a quarter of a million.

If the constituency of the new Glasgow Municipality is to be trebled, why is the Magistracy to be lessened in number?

Instead of the appointment of additional Magistrates and Councillors for the new and so greatly extended constituency by Royal Warrant, why should not the old and constitutional practice be followed, and the necessary number of Magistrates and Council be fixed by the Bill, that they may be elected by the people, reserving for future Parliaments to legislate for future changes in the population of Burghs, or at least, that the Crown, on the representation of any Council, when the population may hereafter so greatly increase, should fix the requisite number of additional Councillors or Magistrates, who should still be chosen according to our popular Municipal forms?

But by far the most alarming change, in this Bill, on our Municipal policy and constitutional maxims is the proposal to withdraw from the three Estates of the Imperial Parliament the power of imposing taxes on the people, and delegating that truly sovereign power to a small number of individuals that may happen to form a certain majority of any Town Council, who will not be bound by those Parliamentary precautionary forms of public notice, and repeated and deliberate discussion and scrutiny of facts, in various stages, reiterated in a legislature of two independent and mutually and constitutionally jealous Chambers.

By this Bill a few persons, suddenly, privately, almost secretly, called together on a day's notice, perhaps, without even the cognizance of the press, may in one short sitting, where a prepared and canvassed majority may clamour down a minority, and without the Parliamentary resource for enforcing an adjournment for more deliberate consideration, impose novel and indefinite burdens; or a total revolution in the form and relative pressure of local taxation, with great injustice to one class for the benefit of another, may be irrevocably fixed on the Citizens, and even the imaginary guarantee of the new territory against the old burdens of the old Burgh be evaded by some new arrangement.

That the provision for the Town Council absorbing the separate functions of

Boards of Police, although qualified by the plausible condition of an option, may be, by a canvassed simple majority, unguarded by the preliminaries required for some other changes proposed in this Bill, suddenly carried with a result, desirable perhaps in some smaller towns, but most pernicious in so extensive a population as Glasgow, where the great and experienced conveniences of the existing subdivision of Police over more than a quarter of a million of miscellaneous manufacturing population are such, that if that subdivision did not already exist, it would be wise to create it.

That the indispensable principle of subdivision among the existing local Police Boards of Glasgow, and the incorporated suburbs of Gorbals, Calton, and Anderston, is not inconsistent, but perfectly reconcilable with a well-combined general system of criminal Police for the detection of the more serious offences: which could be easily effected by establishing a central office at the seat of the Glasgow Police, with an active head and proper officers, with whom the local officers should communicate and co-operate, the expense of which could be defrayed by a rateable contribution from the funds under the management of the local Boards of Police.

That the transfer of the mass of Police detail, which the local Boards easily master by the principle of division of labour, to the Town Council, with its trebled constituency, which can never undertake it, would throw the collection and application of a Police tax of Twenty Thousand Pounds a year into the hands nominally of a Council Committee, but really of hired functionaries of different sorts and characters,—the public discussion of Police affairs at local Boards, which at present subject them to the salutary censorship of public opinion, would never be heard of, except the Police Committee quarrelled, and the minority appealed to the Council, which could as little pretend to investigate such matters as the House of Commons can interfere with the discipline of the Army.

In conclusion, the Merchants House trust that the extended consideration which they have thus bestowed on the provisions of the Bill, as affecting the general interests of the community at large, will be accepted as proof that they do not oppose judicious Municipal Reform by any claim of monopoly, nor even any separate or narrow interest, but are entitled to the sympathy and support of Parliament, in merely asking that the faith of Parliament in the Royal Burgh Reform Act should be maintained—so far as regards the social existence of the Merchants House, and the immemorially possessed seat of its official head—the second Magistrate of Glasgow, the Judge in one of the Burgh Courts—in the Municipal Council, where he has sat since these Councils were first known in our history, and since they were reformed, not only without any impediment to the working of a reformed Council, but with an undeniable propriety as the official head of the great Commercial body of Glasgow, as their only direct Representative in a Council exercising the important Trust of the Harbour and River Navigation.

That the Merchants House may be permitted just to notice, for the information of those who frame such legislative measures at a distance, and so under an excusable want of perfect knowledge of the important and various interests of this great and rapidly growing community, that some regard is due, if not to the good faith of Parliament, to

the natural and just feeling excited by an attempt to expel the official head of the House from a seat in Council, guaranteed by the great Parliamentary Charter of the Reformed Burghs of Scotland, and that feeling strengthened by ancient recollections of personal and pecuniary sacrifices of the Merchants House of Glasgow in the cause of national liberty—in maintaining the present Family on the Throne, when Glasgow was beleaguered and occupied by a rebel force; and of the liberal contributions to found and support useful Institutions, to promote public improvement and embellish the City, to alleviate calamity arising from war, stagnation of trade, or pestilential disease,—of all which patriotic exertions ample proofs are to be found in the records of the Merchants House.

May it therefore please your Honourable House that the said Bill may not in its present shape pass into a law; but that the Petitioners be heard by themselves, their Agents and Council, against the same, or such parts thereof as affect their interests; and that they may have such relief in the premises as to the wisdom of your Honourable House shall seem meet. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Signed, &c.

J. Martin, D. G.

20th September, 1836.

Mr. Leadbetter, as Convener of the Committee appointed 23rd June last, to consider and report on the best mode of managing the affairs of the House, presented the following Report:—

The Committee have directed their attention to the present system of managing the business of the Corporation, and considered fully its various interests, and in particular the important and rapidly increasing addition to the duties of the Collector, arising from the Necropolis—an undertaking that promises not only to be a productive source of revenue to the Merchants House, but an interesting ornament to the City.

This investigation has presented the affairs of the House under a new aspect. They are not now confined to a Revenue flowing from a few well-defined and easily-managed sources, and to an Expenditure controlled by restrictions and regulated by long-established rules, but they now embrace an enterprise of great magnitude, requiring for its progressive success much minute attention, and the confidence and good opinion of the public.

The Committee are therefore of opinion that, although the present Collector has conscientiously and ably discharged his duties, the interests of the House require that the person filling that office should give his whole time and services to the affairs of the Corporation.

The Committee would therefore suggest the following plan or measures, which, if adopted, they feel assured will advance the interests of the House, be more convenient to its members, and afford greater facilities of intercourse with the public:—

1st. That a Collector be appointed in October next, properly qualified, to take the

superintendence and management of the whole heritable and pecuniary concerns of the House, and who shall give to them his undivided time.

2nd. That an office be taken, of suitable dimensions, for conducting the business of the House, particularly the Cemetery, where the public and Directors may have access at all times.

3rd. That in connection with the office there should be a room wherein the Directors may hold their ordinary meetings.

4th. That should the Rules of the House require that the Collector be a Member, the person appointed may qualify as Member.

13th December, 1836.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, called by the following advertisement :—

“ In pursuance of the resolution of a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, the Dean of Guild requests a Meeting of the said Matriculated Members in the Town Hall, on Tuesday, the Thirteenth December, at Twelve o'clock noon, to take into consideration the following motions :—

“ 1st. That the person holding the situation of Collector to the Merchants House be no longer, in virtue of that office, a Director.

“ 2nd. That the offices of Collector and Clerk, which have hitherto been held by separate persons, may in future be held by one person, as often as the Directors of the House shall so determine.

“(Signed) William Brown, D. G.

“Glasgow, 7th November, 1836.”

After the Minutes of the House respecting the subject of the two foregoing Motions were read, Mr. John Leadbetter moved, and Mr. Robert Stewart seconded the said two Motions; upon which, Mr. Robert Findlay, seconded by Mr. John Pattison, moved the following amendment :—

“That the Report now submitted to the consideration of the Meeting be again remitted to the Directors, for the purpose of obtaining from them more detailed information regarding the diminution of Expenditure in the management of the affairs of the House which they anticipate from the change of system proposed, so that the Matriculated Members may be fully enabled to judge of its prospective benefits before final decision.”

And the said Motions and amendment being put, the amendment was negatived, and the original Motions carried by a majority of the Matriculated Members present.

12th January, 1837.

At a special Meeting of the Merchants House of Glasgow, called to arrange a Deputation to Blythswood House—James Martin, late Dean of Guild, in the Chair, in absence of the Dean of Guild, who is indisposed,—

The Chairman reported the following as the Address adjusted by the Committee :—

To the Right Honourable Sir Robert Peel, Baronet.

Sir,—The Merchants House of Glasgow gladly avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by your visit to this City to offer their congratulations on your recent election to the honourable office of Lord Rector of the University—an office which your eminent accomplishments as a Statesman and a Scholar so well enable you to fill.

But, Sir, they do not regard this alone as a testimony on the part of the Youth of this great Commercial Community of their admiration of your literary and personal character, but as a proof of the growing attachment of all ranks to those great principles of sober and rational liberty under which this Country has so long flourished, and has attained an unexampled eminence in Arts and Sciences, Commerce and Manufactures.

To you, Sir, the Nation looks up as one of her best protectors, confident that, whether directing the Councils of your Sovereign or leading a powerful and independent party in Parliament, while you proceed in that course of cautious and practical reform which has distinguished your career as a Statesman, you will employ the splendid talents bestowed on you by Divine Providence in resisting all reckless schemes of innovation, and in upholding those free and liberal institutions which form that invaluable Constitution in Church and State handed down by our forefathers, and which we trust to transmit unimpaired to posterity.

Which was read and approved of, and the following appointed a Committee to accompany the Dean of Guild to Blythswood House to present it,—viz., Messrs. Allan Gilmour, James M. Graham, George R. Wilson, Allan Stewart, Archibald Smith, Archibald Newall, William F. Burnley, William Rodger, Laurence Hill, and John Douglas.

16th February, 1837.

It was unanimously agreed to Petition the House of Commons against the Tax on Cotton, and a Petition was read and agreed to be immediately sent to the House of Commons, and presented by the Members for the City.

The Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting a copy of a Petition from the Merchants House to the House of Commons, representing,—

That your Petitioners understand an application has been made to your Honourable House for leave to bring in a Bill to incorporate a Company under the title of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company, for the purpose of constructing a Railway from Edinburgh to Glasgow.

That the proposed line of Railway appears to possess favourable gradients and termini, and to be otherwise well adapted for the accommodation of the public, to whom it would afford increased facilities of communication not only between Edinburgh and Glasgow, but between the Towns of Stirling, Falkirk, Alloa, Linlithgow, &c.

That your Petitioners view this undertaking as of National importance, and are satisfied that it would be of peculiar advantage to the Mercantile community of Glasgow and the West of Scotland, by rendering more perfect and rapid the communication between the East and West Coast, and they therefore feel much interested in the success of so important a measure, and therefore pray your Honourable House to pass the said Bill into a Law, &c.

21st April, 1837.

The Dean of Guild submitted the Bill to regulate the Constitution, Jurisdiction, and Forms of Process of Sheriff and Burgh Courts in Scotland, and read therefrom the clause extinguishing the office of Dean of Guild, and Dean of Guild Court.

Mr. John Smith, youngest, moved, and Mr. Allan Stewart seconded the following Resolutions, which were agreed to :—

That the Dean of Guild and Deacon Convener, so far as can be discovered, have been Members, *ex officio*, of the Town Councils of the Royal Burghs of Scotland from the earliest times, and that the Burgh Reform Act of Eighteen hundred and thirty-three expressly continues them therein.

That this is quite in accordance with the principle on which the great Council of the Nation is founded, and which grants to important Corporations, such as Cities, Towns, and Universities, the privilege of Representatives in Parliament.

That since the passing of the Reform Act, the continuance of these Officers in the Town Council of Glasgow has, in the opinion of this House, been productive of unquestionable advantage to the community.

That their seats, moreover, in the Town Council, having been expressly continued by the Burgh Reform Act, have become vested rights which the faith of Parliament is pledged to maintain, and of which it would be unjust to deprive them.

That the contrary opinion which is expressed in the Report of the Burgh Com-

missioners was pronounced upon inadequate evidence, and before experience of the amalgamation of these Offices with the Representative Town Council.

That the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow, being composed of a Jury of Merchants and Tradesmen, with the Dean of Guild to preside, and the senior Town Clerk as Legal Assessor, has hitherto enjoyed the perfect confidence of the Community, and appears far better fitted to give prompt and intelligent decisions on the questions which come before it than any tribunal by which the new Burgh Bill propose to supply its place.

That the separate rights, interests, property, and taxation of the City and the several Suburbs are so various, it would be nearly impossible to combine them; that the Local Police Boards of these districts are able more effectually and with greater economy to accomplish their objects than by any general assessment; and that there is no good reason shown why the Revenue of the Burgh of Glasgow should be applied for maintaining the Municipal expenses of the Suburbs.

That the power of removing the Town Clerks and other officers, and granting them Compensation, is simply a power to tax the Community for gratifying the caprice or increasing the influence of any party who at the time may command a majority of the Council, and cannot therefore be defended.

That the power of taxation for general purposes has never yet since the Union been delegated by Parliament, and that the delegation of such a power to any Town Council cannot be regarded as otherwise than inexpedient; and, considering the lavish expenditure of the Burgh funds of late, especially in contests before Parliament, it must be most dangerous.

That Petitions founded upon these Resolutions be prepared and presented to Parliament.

13th June, 1837.

The House authorized the Dean of Guild, with the advice of the Committee which framed the Petition in favour of the Edinburgh Railway, to prepare, sign, and transmit a Petition to Parliament, in favour of the Glasgow and Greenock Railway, in the event of the objections to its progress in the House of Lords upon the Standing Orders being obviated.

The Dean of Guild reported the steps taken by the Deputation in opposition to the Municipal Corporation Bill, which the House unanimously approved of, and directed the Case of the Merchants House against the Bill to be engrossed in the Minutes.

Case for the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, upon the subject of the Municipal Corporations (Scotland) Bill.

Glasgow, and also Edinburgh, were originally included in this Bill, but have latterly been excepted from its operation in consequence of the opposition manifested to it among all parties in both cities; but such exception has not been made willingly, nor in order that Bills, based on other principles, may be applied to these great Communities, but for the purpose of eluding the resistance which they alone have the means of offering.

The same principles which the general Bill would set up and establish are avowedly to be adopted in legislating separately for Glasgow; and the Merchants House of that City conceive themselves as fully entitled, and in duty as much bound, to continue their opposition to that Bill as if the name of Glasgow had not been expunged from its pages. Accordingly, they beg respectfully to submit to Parliament a short statement of the various objections to which, in their opinion, it is open:—

1st. One pervading principle of the Bill is the delegation of powers of a legislative character to irresponsible parties,—powers which are to be exercised in a loose and not very intelligible manner, and without any one of those checks which even Parliament considers it necessary to impose on its own proceedings.

The following are instances of this:—A power to every Town Council to establish such a code of Police laws as the Councillors may think right, and to enforce these laws by fine and imprisonment.

Clause 57. A general power to construct Water Works, and for that purpose to open Streets, Roads, and Grounds, both in and beyond the boundaries in Burghs.

Clause 68. A power to compel the public to get all commodities, sold or delivered within Burgh, weighed, and to levy such a tax or custom therefor as the Councils may think fit to impose, without any limit.

Clause 85. A power to the majority of any existing Parliamentary Board for paving, lighting, cleansing, watching, regulating, or improving any Burgh, to transfer to the Town Councils their statutory powers and authorities.

Clause 102. A similar power to a majority of Municipal electors present at any meeting, called by private Circular, from the Town Clerk, to abrogate any such Parliamentary Board, and to transfer its statutory powers to the Town Councillors—Ibid. And powers to the Town Councils to assess the inhabitants for any object whatever which they may consider to be comprehended under the very vague terms of "Municipal" purposes. Clauses 107-109.

It is submitted that such delegations to irresponsible bodies, of functions peculiar to supreme Legislation, of enacting Laws, imposing rates and taxes, conferring and transferring statutory powers, and taking private property for speculative works, are highly objectionable and impolitic, and would be open to great abuse.

2nd. The Bill is palpably inconsistent with itself, because it admits that the funds and property of existing Burghs must be administered for behoof of these Burghs exclusively, and yet it transfers to the Councillors to be elected by the extended Districts the control, management, and appropriation of these funds, and the civil,

ecclesiastical, judicial, and charitable patronage which is now exercised exclusively by the inhabitants of the present Burghs.

In proof of this, reference is made to clauses 5 and 106. The last of these is calculated to involve the management of the important Trusts and Charities of existing Burghs in the utmost uncertainty and difficulty, for this obvious reason, that an impossibility is attempted—namely, to alter, and at the same time to retain, the present Constitutions of these Trusts and Charities.

3rd. The Bill is further inconsistent with itself in establishing new limits and boundaries to Burghs, and yet leaving the assumed and disjointed districts subject to all existing taxations and local burdens—an arrangement which could not fail to be productive of inextricable difficulties and never-ending disputes.

Under clauses 2, 3, and 4, 6, 7, and 8, County Rates and Taxes would continue to be levied within Burghs, and Town's Taxes and Rates would be levied in the Counties; Lands beyond the Burghs would be held for burgage service, and Lands within Burghs would be held in feu; the inhabitants of the Towns would have to maintain the Poor of the County, and County Proprietors would have to support the Poor of certain portions of the Town; and in numberless other respects the old boundaries would have to be recognized for certain purposes and disregarded for others.

Such partial legislation is unwise and impolitic, and can lead to nothing but confusion, discontent, and litigation.

4th. The reduction of the franchise in many of the new Burghs is uncalled for, unless it be intended as a step to a similar reduction in the qualification of Parliamentary Electors: to such a reduction the Merchants House of Glasgow are entirely opposed, and they object to the establishment of a precedent for it.

5th. Judging from the beneficial working of the Dean of Guild Court in Glasgow, the Merchants House strongly disapprove of the proposed abolition of that Court. They can see no useful object in substituting for it the clumsy and unworkable machinery of clause 142. If the real object of the change be the ejection of the Head of the Merchants House from the Town Council, the measure is disingenuous as well as impolitic.

6th. And, in conclusion, the Bill in question appears to the Merchants House of Glasgow, after mature and candid consideration, a crude and ill-digested measure, founded on mistaken principles, partial in its effects, impolitic in many of its objects, inconsistent in its details, inexplicable in construction, and altogether so imperfect as to be incapable of conversion into a useful public measure, and they humbly submit that much consideration must be given to this extremely difficult and important subject before Parliament can be prepared to legislate satisfactorily upon it.

1st August, 1837.

At a Meeting specially called for the purpose of presenting an Address of Condolence to the Queen Dowager, and an Address of

Congratulation to the Queen Victoria on her accession to the Throne,

The Dean of Guild presented the following, which, having been read and discussed, were unanimously approved of, and the Dean of Guild was authorized to sign and seal, and transmit the same to the Secretary of State for the Home Department for presentation:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave humbly to approach the Throne with the expression of our most sincere and respectful condolence upon the death of our late excellent and beloved King, and to testify our earnest desire that it may please Almighty God long to preserve your Majesty's valuable life as a blessing to your people.

We congratulate your Majesty on succeeding to the Crown of these Realms in a time of peace and tranquillity—blessings which, under the sway of our late lamented Sovereign, and of his august predecessor, this Nation has long enjoyed—and that in circumstances also which cannot fail to engage every manly and generous feeling of a loyal people in your support.

We beg humbly to express our inviolable attachment to a free and wisely balanced Constitution, under which Great Britain has been raised to the foremost rank among the Nations, and to those enlightened Protestant principles which have placed the illustrious House of Hanover upon the Throne. And we trust that, under your Majesty's wise and beneficent Counsels, every judicious improvement may be promoted in our invaluable Institutions; and the Constitutional Rights and Liberties of all classes of your subjects consolidated and secured.

In conclusion, we would again assure your Majesty of our most respectful and devoted attachment to your Majesty's person and government, and our earnest prayer that your reign may be long, prosperous, and happy.

To Her Majesty the Queen Dowager.

We, the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave most respectfully to offer to your Majesty our sincere sympathy and condolence on the mournful occasion of the loss of your Majesty's beloved and lamented Consort, our late excellent Sovereign, King William the Fourth, and to testify our admiration of the many virtues with which you have always adorned your high station, and of the affectionate and sympathizing solicitude with which you soothed and sustained his late Majesty during the protracted and painful period of those sufferings which terminated his valuable life.

We pray that your Majesty may long enjoy the tranquillity and happiness which result from the consciousness of having justly acquired, and continuing to possess, the unfeigned esteem and respect of a free and an intelligent people.

10th October, 1837.

It was moved by Mr. Leadbetter, and seconded by Mr. James Black, and carried, with the dissent of Mr. John Pattison, who declined to vote, "That Robert Buntine be appointed Collector and Clerk of the Merchants House, for one year from this date, subject to the Resolutions lately agreed to by the House in reference to the office, and to such Rules as the House may adopt for the efficient management of its affairs."

On the Motion of the Dean of Guild, the Meeting unanimously resolved to record the sense they entertain of the ability and attention with which Mr. Douglas has continued for many years to discharge the duties of Clerk to the Merchants House, and their satisfaction with the manner in which he has conducted himself towards the Directors during the recent discussion of the changes in the system of management.

Further, the Meeting, taking into consideration the manner in which Mr. Hill has long performed his duties as Collector to the Merchants House, are unanimously of opinion that he has done so with zeal and ability, and with an anxious wish to promote the interests of the House.

9th February, 1838.

The Meeting agreed to Petition the House of Commons in favour of the Glasgow and Edinburgh Railway Bill, and the Draft of a Petition having been read, was unanimously approved of, and ordered to be engrossed and transmitted for presentation in the House of Commons.

The Meeting having taken into consideration a communication, dated 22nd January, 1838, from Mr. William Euing, Treasurer to the Association of Underwriters in Glasgow, regarding an application to the House of Commons for a repeal of the Duty on Marine Insurances, and, concurring with the Underwriters' Association as to the expediency of

such an application, unanimously agree to Petition the House of Commons, and request Mr. James Browne to prepare a Petition to the House, praying for a repeal of said duties accordingly.

The Dean of Guild brought under the notice of the Directors the subject of Combinations among Workmen at present existing in all parts of the Country, and read several documents showing the extensive ramifications and dangerous nature of such Combinations: among others, a Memorial by the Master Builders of Glasgow, which they intend to transmit to the Home Secretary; and the Meeting being unanimously of opinion that an effectual check should be immediately put to such Combinations or Unions, appoint Messrs. H. Grazebrooke, J. Sommerville, and Arch. M'Lellan, as a Committee to prepare a Memorial on the subject, and to transmit the same to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and to act otherwise in the matter, on the part of the Merchants House, as to them may seem expedient.

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13th March, 1838.

The Dean also, in absence of the Convener of the Committee appointed by the House on the 9th day of February last, to attend to the Corporation Bill for Glasgow, about to be introduced into the House of Commons by the Magistrates and Council of the City, laid before the House the following Report and Petition, which had been prepared with the concurrence of the other Members of the Committee, viz. :—

It will be in the recollection of the House that the Lord Advocate and Mr. Robert Stewart, of the Treasury, during the last Session of Parliament brought into the House of Commons a general Bill for improving the Municipal Government of the Royal and Parliamentary Burghs in Scotland, and that this House opposed that Bill,—at the outset, because it appeared to be a piece of crude and unwieldy legislation, professing to regulate equally for Glasgow, with its great and varied interests, and for the most unimportant Burghs in Scotland; and subsequently, after Glasgow had been withdrawn from the Bill, the House still deemed it necessary to continue its opposition to the measure, because it conferred novel and unconstitutional powers on irresponsible functionaries, and contained various other mischievous enactments, such as the reduction of the fran-

chise, which the House justly regarded as likely to lead to farther innovations, of which the extent could not be foreseen.

Before the end of last Session of Parliament the above Bill, in consequence of the opposition of this House and other influential parties, was finally withdrawn.

A correspondence took place in May last between the Lord Provost of Glasgow and Mr. Stewart of the Treasury, in which a pledge was given on the part of the Government that every facility would be given in passing such a separate Bill for Glasgow as the Magistrates and Council should deem best adapted to the wants of the whole district; and in consequence thereof, the Magistrates and Council, after the adoption of the Resolutions referred to in the Minute by which your Committee was appointed, prepared and printed a Bill, embodying the principles contained in these Resolutions, and copies of said Bill were sent by the Lord Provost to the Dean of Guild, for the use of this House, on the 17th ult.

Your Committee have examined the various clauses of the said Municipal Bill, and find that its leading provisions correspond with the Resolutions which were adopted by the Town Council on the 29th day of January last, and are, in the opinion of your Committee, well adapted to the wants of this great City—comprehending, in particular, Police Regulations which will unite the energies of the City and whole Suburban districts in the maintenance of peace, good order, and security, producing uniformity of action where it is of essential importance, and combining the operations of the whole districts in matters where their interests equally and naturally unite, whilst the authority of each in the management of their respective Properties, and their administrative powers in regard to other and peculiar Municipal Institutions, Trusts, and Charities, comprehending interests so multifarious and conflicting that no legislative enactment could possibly unite them in one harmonious system of management, are preserved entire under the separate Municipalities now in existence, some of which are also improved in their Constitutions, and for the first time placed on a footing of independence.

Your Committee are therefore prepared to recommend that the House should support the Magistrates and Council in obtaining the sanction of the Legislature to the Bill in question, and beg leave respectfully to subjoin the Draft of a Petition to both Houses of Parliament in its favour, as farther containing those sentiments which they are desirous to lay before the House in their Report on this important legislative measure.

The Petition sets forth,—

That the Corporation of the Merchants House comprehends the great body of the Merchants and Manufacturers of the City and Suburbs of Glasgow, and that they have a deep and personal interest in everything which concerns the well-being of the City.

That the Municipal Government and preservation of the peace command their especial regard.

That the Magistrates and Council of the City have furnished your Petitioners with the heads of a Bill about to be brought into your Honourable House “For the better Regulating the Municipal Corporation of Glasgow, for empowering the inhabitants of

the Town and Barony of Gorbals to elect their own Magistrates and Council, and for establishing a general and more efficient system of Police for said City and Suburbs, within the Parliamentary Franchise Boundary."

That the general principles of said Bill appear to your Petitioners to be especially suited to the circumstances of Glasgow, preserving as it does to the Magistrates and Council the management of the affairs and administration of the property of the Ancient and extended Royalty; maintaining the separate Magistracies of the different Suburban Burghs, whose varied interests it would not be possible to reconcile with those of the Ancient City, and at the same time embracing an establishment for the preservation of the peace, for the security of property, and for the prevention and detection of crime throughout the whole districts, under the vigorous and efficient management of a general Board of Police, in whose Members are included Representatives from all the various local Communities.

That the Bill in question contains provisions enabling the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow to relinquish the rather obnoxious power of appointing the Magistrates and Council of the Town or Barony of Gorbals, and also for the better regulation of the ancient Burgh Courts, for the more speedy administration of Justice, for enabling the Magistrates more fully to enforce the Laws against the violation of the Lord's day, and for promoting in various ways the health, cleanliness, and comfort of the Citizens.

That it appears to your Petitioners that an Act containing such provisions as those now narrated will be highly beneficial and acceptable, not only to your Petitioners, but to the great body of the Merchants, Manufacturers, and Inhabitants of the City and Suburbs.

Which Report and Petition having been read and fully considered, the House, on the Motion of John Pollok, Esq., seconded by William Gray, Esq., approved of the same, Mr. Pattison alone dissenting, ordered that a Petition in accordance with the foregoing draft be forthwith prepared, and forwarded to

to be presented at the proper time to the House of Lords, and to
for the House of Commons, and re-appoint the former Committee, with the addition of Messrs. Macintosh, Pollok, Cogan, Leadbetter, and M'Lellan, to watch over the progress of the Bill, and to take such other means as they may judge necessary for supporting the Magistrates and Council in carrying it through Parliament, by sending a deputation to London, and by the employment of Counsel and Agents to appear on their behalf.

The Dean of Guild then called the attention of the House to the

General Municipal Bill for Scotland, which the Lord Advocate has lately stated in a letter to the Lord Provost of Glasgow is again about to be introduced into Parliament, referring the Provost to the General Bill of last Session as containing the principles and chief details of said Bill. He likewise laid before the House the Case drawn up by the Solicitor in London when their Deputation was there opposing said Bill in May last.

Whereupon the House, on the Motion of Archibald M'Lellan, Esq., seconded by John Leadbetter, Esq., resolved that the above-named Committee be enjoined to watch over the introduction of the said General Municipal Bill, and, in so far as it may contain the same objectionable principles and provisions as last year's Bill, to take such measures in opposing the same as they may judge or shall be advised to be most effectual.

The House then approved of a Petition to the House of Commons, brought forward and read by the Dean of Guild, relative to the profanation of the Lord's day by the practice of Retailers of Spirits carrying on their business during all hours of the Sabbath, excepting those devoted to Divine service.

The Petition as to Marine Insurance to the House of Commons set forth,—

That it is of the greatest importance to the Commerce of the United Kingdom that it be protected by Insurance at the cheapest rate.

That large Capitals are so employed by the Underwriters of this great Commercial Country.

That it consists with the knowledge of your Petitioners that the Stamp Duties at present levied in this country on Marine Insurances, amounting in many cases to 25 per cent. on the premiums paid to the Underwriters, have had the effect of injuring not only the British Underwriters, but also the Commercial and Shipping interests of the United Kingdom, by compelling the Merchant and Ship Owner to resort to the numerous Insurance Companies established on the continent of Europe, in America, and in India, to avoid the heavy tax imposed in this country.

That British Capital, to a large amount, is therefore annually transferred to Foreign Countries, while it is effectually excluded from all participation in the Insurance of Foreign Countries.

And therefore pray, May it therefore please your Honourable House to repeal the whole Stamp Duties on Policies of Marine Insurance.

The Petition as to Retailing of Spirits on the Sabbath, sent to the House of Commons, sets forth,—

That your Petitioners consider it incumbent on them to state to your Honourable House that the most pernicious effects are produced in this large community by the practice of Retailers of Spirits carrying on their business on the Lord's day, at all hours excepting those on which Divine service is performed.

That this practice was strictly prohibited by the ancient Laws of this Kingdom, which provided for the proper observance of the Sabbath, but has received countenance and encouragement by a recent Decision of the Supreme Criminal Court of Scotland, which construes the Act 9th Geo. 4, Cap. 58, as sanctioning the Sale of Spirits on all hours of the Sabbath except those devoted to Divine service in public.

That your Petitioners believe the Promoters and Framers of the Act in question anticipated from its operation results the very opposite of those which the Decision of the Justiciary Court before mentioned has produced; and as the baneful effects of Sabbath profanation thence arising are daily becoming more obvious to your Petitioners, they humbly entreat your Honourable House to prevent the continuance of so great an evil.

And therefore pray that it may please your Honourable House to pass an Act, declaring that the Laws prohibiting Sunday trading in Scotland are not to be held as repealed by the Statute referred to; and to provide such further remedies for the evils complained of, by increasing the Penalties against Offenders, or otherwise, as to the wisdom of your Honourable House may seem proper.

28th March, 1838.

John Pollok, Esq., and Robert Findlay, Esq., were appointed a Deputation to represent the House at a Meeting of the Public Bodies of the City, about to be held for the purpose of concerting measures with a view to an invitation being sent to the British Association to hold their next Meeting in Glasgow, and the House authorized the Deputation to concur in said invitation, on the understanding that the funds of the House are not to be made liable for any expenses that may be incurred thereby.

The Committee of the House on Post Office accommodation are instructed immediately to avail themselves of the favourable opportunity now afforded by the vacancy which has occurred in the Office of Postmaster for Glasgow, to obtain the removal of the Post Office to a

situation better suited to the convenience of all classes of the Community, and to co-operate with other Public Bodies, or take such measures as they may consider most effectual for the attainment of so important an object.

12th June, 1838.

In consequence of the present state of the Funds, the House ordered that no advertisement as to applications for Charity should be published this year.

The Petition of the House against the General Municipal Bill for Scotland sets forth,—

That your Petitioners have on several occasions experienced great trouble, and incurred much expense in opposing attempts to alter and destroy the Municipal Constitutions of the Scotch Royal Burghs, as fixed by the Act 3rd and 4th William IV., Cap. 76. That the Bills brought into your Honourable House for these purposes have not only been uncalled for, but deprecated by the great majority of the Scotch Royal Burghs, and were found even by their Promoters to be so utterly impracticable that they were obliged to withdraw them.

That your Petitioners believe that, during the last Session of Parliament, the Government admitted the necessity of a separate measure of legislation for the City of Glasgow, and the City of Glasgow was accordingly taken out of last year's Bill.

Your Petitioners know that the Town Council, acting upon this belief, have prepared a Bill suited especially to the circumstances and Institutions of this Community, and they may be permitted to express their surprise that Government, in the face of this understanding, and in the knowledge that such a Bill has been prepared, should again have included Glasgow in their general measure.

That your Petitioners feel it to be a grievous hardship on them to be compelled year after year to sacrifice large portions of their funds in resisting reiterated unconstitutional assaults on the established Institutions of the Country.

That your Petitioners were in hopes that by the exertions of this House, and other influential Bodies, the impolicy of including the City of Glasgow, with its manifold and varied interests, in any General Bill, had been sufficiently demonstrated, and that it would not have been necessary for them to complain of another attempt to include this City in any general enactment.

Your Petitioners are, however, once more constrained to approach your Honourable House in opposition to a Bill recently introduced by Mr. Fox Maule, the Lord Advocate, and Lord John Russell, entitled, "A Bill to provide for the better Regulation of Municipal Corporations in the Royal Burghs of Scotland." By the Bill before

your Honourable House it is proposed to place the vast Mercantile Community of Glasgow, with its numerous Institutions and Trusts, Parliamentary, Charitable, and Ecclesiastical, under the same system of government which is to be applied to the smallest Burgh in Scotland; to extend the boundary of the Burgh to the limits of the Parliamentary district, thereby granting to the Suburban Communities, which are possessed of no property, a participation and interest in the vast wealth and numerous Institutions of the ancient Burgh; to annihilate the Magistracies at present existing in the Suburban districts, at the same time enacting "that the several Rates, Duties, Assessments, Customs, or Imposts at present leviable therein shall continue to be levied by the same authority;" to disfranchise a numerous and respectable portion of the Municipal Constituency by limiting the right of voting strictly to those resident, or carrying on business personally, within the Parliamentary boundary; to transfer to the Sheriff the Judicial powers of the Dean of Guild, and to confer upon the Town Council the power of nominating a Committee of their number to perform the Edile duties now discharged by the Official Head of the Merchants House in conjunction with a permanent Jury of well-qualified Assistants, chosen from the Directors of this House and the Trades House; to confer upon irresponsible Functionaries the novel and unconstitutional power to impose and levy taxes, and to apply the sums so levied in supporting ill-defined and speculative undertakings; and to reduce in certain Burghs the franchise established by the Parliamentary and Burgh Reform Acts.

Besides those above enumerated, the Bill contains other clauses not less objectionable; and, after mature deliberation, your Petitioners consider themselves bound in duty to offer their strenuous opposition to the whole measure, as being uncalled for, in the present state of the Scotch Burghs generally, in introducing principles and innovations of a dangerous and unconstitutional nature, as anomalous and unintelligible in its details, partial in its operations, and, as regards the City of Glasgow, based upon a breach of faith, subverting some of its most valuable Institutions, denying to it that which is conceded to the Burghs of Aberdeen, Banff, Dumfries, and Kirkcaldy,—the separate uncontrolled management of its own affairs,—attempting to reconcile and equalize interests the most conflicting and unequal; to combine under one system of management accumulated jurisdictions, properties, trusts, and institutions so numerous and unwieldy as to be nearly unmanageable under the separate Municipalities at present existing, and involving prospectively inextricable confusion and endless litigation in regard to boundaries, district assessments, administrative jurisdictions, and pecuniary responsibilities.

The Memorial to the Treasury as to the Post Office Accommodation sets forth,—

That your Memorialists have on many former occasions felt it incumbent on them to bring under the consideration of your Lordships and other proper authorities the great inconvenience which this large Mercantile Community has been subjected to, in consequence of the extremely unsuitable and objectionable locality in which the Post

Office of this City is situated, and the inadequacy of the accommodation afforded by the building in which the business of the establishment is conducted. That in the year 1830 in particular, your Memorialists presented an application, setting forth the urgent necessity which then existed for the immediate removal of the Post Office to premises more easily accessible, and possessing the advantage of a central situation, with accommodation more suited to the magnitude of the population and the increasing business of the City. On that occasion your Memorialists referred to the evidence on the subject given before the Commissioners of Revenue Inquiry, and the opinion of the Commissioners thereon, then recently laid before Parliament. To these documents your Memorialists again beg leave to refer, as amply confirmatory of their statements, and further to represent to your Lordships that the arguments employed in former Memorials on this subject have annually acquired additional strength, from the vast increase which has progressively taken place in the number of the Inhabitants, the extent of their Commerce, and the amount of Revenue paid by them to the Post Office. That it is understood one of the chief obstacles to the attainment of the object so earnestly desired by your Petitioners was the contract subsisting between the Government and the Postmaster, Mr. Bannatyne; but as that Gentleman has recently resigned his office, your Memorialists trust that the proper time for complying with their request has now arrived.

That it consists with the knowledge of your Memorialists that a very general feeling prevails amongst the inhabitants of all classes, that a building situated in Glassford Street, occupied by, and belonging to, the Ship Bank of this City, possesses all the advantages of easy access, central situation, and ample interior accommodation, which are essentially requisite in the Post Office of Glasgow; and your Memorialists beg respectfully to state that they cordially concur in the favourable opinion which prevails as to the eligibility of the building referred to, and their desire that it may be secured for the public accommodation.

Your Memorialists approach with great diffidence the subject of supplying the vacancy now existing in the Office of Postmaster. The interests of the Citizens are, however, so deeply involved in this appointment that your Memorialists trust they may be allowed to express their anxiety that the Office may be conferred upon a person qualified by experience for the proper discharge of its important duties; and as it appears to your Memorialists that the convenience of the public and the interest of the Postmaster are brought into direct opposition by connecting his remuneration with Allowances for an Office and Assistants, your Memorialists beg leave most respectfully to suggest that such Allowances should not in future form any part of the Postmaster's Salary.

May it therefore please your Lordships to take this Memorial into your favourable consideration; to provide commodious, central, and easily accessible premises for the Post Office Establishment of this City; to appoint a person of experience to fill the Office of Postmaster; and to remunerate him by a fixed Salary, without Allowances for an Office and Assistants, &c.

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11th September, 1838.

On the motion of Mr. Pattison, it was agreed to apply to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests for a grant of the triangular piece of Ground on the North side of the entrance to the Necropolis, which belongs to the Crown; and the Cemetery Committee are requested to make the application in such form as to them may seem fit.

11th December, 1838.

On the Motion of the Lord Dean of Guild, seconded by John Leadbetter, Esq., the House unanimously agreed to subscribe One Hundred Pounds, Sterling, from the funds of the House, in aid of a Female House of Refuge about to be erected in Glasgow.

18th February, 1839.

The House having resumed consideration of an Extract from the Minutes of the Town's Hospital, dated 20th November, 1838, and the Resolution then adopted by the Directors of the Hospital, "That an Inspector be appointed to visit and scrutinize the whole cases of the Sessional and other Poor within the City," unanimously approve thereof, and authorize the Clerk to intimate their concurrence in said Resolution to the Directors of the Town's Hospital.

A Letter addressed to the Lord Dean of Guild by the Rev. James Smith, of Cathcart, conveying to the House the unanimous thanks of the Presbytery of Glasgow for their kind countenance at the late Commemoration, was read and ordered to be engrossed in the Minutes.

[This was the Bicentenary of the Sitting of the General Assembly in Glasgow.]

12th March, 1839.

A Memorial to the Lords of H.M. Treasury relative to the Irish Mail Packet Stations was read, amended, and ordered to be transmitted forthwith.

The Dean of Guild laid on the table a copy of the new Bankruptcy Bill for Scotland, at present before Parliament, and the House appointed the following Committee to consider the same, and to report, viz.:—Messrs. James Campbell, Andrew Wingate, Hugh Cogan, William Richmond, Archibald Newall, and John Leadbetter—Mr. Campbell to be Convener.

The Memorial to the Treasury set forth,—

That your Memorialists are deeply interested in the Trade between Scotland and Ireland, and in the regularity of the communication by Mail between the two Kingdoms.

That your Memorialists unreservedly concur in the opinion expressed in the Report of the Commissioners some time ago appointed to investigate the subject, that the Ports of Donaghadee and Port-Patrick are most unsuitable as Mail Packet Stations; and they think it incumbent on them to acquaint your Lordships that the irregularities thence arising have been attended with serious loss and inconvenience to the Members of this Corporation, and to the trading interests of the West of Scotland.

That your Memorialists have learned with regret that it is in contemplation to expend additional, and, if necessary, large sums of the public money in a renewed attempt to improve the Harbour of Port-Patrick; and being fully convinced that, as heretofore, all such expenditure will be unavailing, and that the public service and the Mercantile interests of both Countries may be more effectually and more easily benefited, without any expense, by simply changing the stations from Donaghadee to one or other of the neighbouring Ports on the North Coast of Ireland, and from Port-Patrick to Loch Ryan, Ardrossan, or some one of the numerous and safe Harbours on the Frith of Clyde.

They, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly request that your Lordships will prevent any farther expenditure at Port-Patrick or Donaghadee; and, after due investigation, transfer the Packet Stations to the most eligible of the Harbours above referred to, on the North Coast of Ireland, and on the West Coast of Scotland.

3rd April, 1839.

A communication from Mr. William Brooks, Interim Secretary of a Committee appointed at a Public Meeting for the purpose of procuring a Survey of the best route for a line of Railway between Glasgow and Carlisle, and requesting a subscription in aid thereof, having been read and discussed, the House, considering that such a grant should be incon-

sistent with their former practice, and likely to lead to further demands of a similar kind, resolve not to subscribe to the Survey in question.

On the Motion of James Campbell, Esq., the House agree to present a Petition to the House of Commons in favour of a Uniform Rate of Postage, upon the plan suggested by Mr. Rowland Hill, and request Mr. Campbell and the Dean of Guild to prepare and transmit the Petition.

A letter from John Ferguson, Esq., Provost of Inverness, requesting the House to join in Petitioning the Legislature to sanction the completion of the Caledonian Canal, and the employment of Steam Tug Boats thereon, having been read and considered, the House agreed to comply with the suggestion, and request the Dean of Guild to forward a Petition accordingly.

The House having taken into consideration a Petition, numerously signed by inhabitants of Ladywell, Drygate, and Duke Streets, praying that a piece of ground at the Necropolis might be appropriated as a site for a School House, grant the prayer of the Petition, and remit to the Cemetery Committee to see the same carried into effect, in the situation and under the stipulations formerly agreed to.

The Petition to the House of Commons as to the Penny Postage set forth,—

That your Petitioners have instituted inquiries for the purpose of satisfying themselves regarding the practicability of establishing a Uniform Rate of Postage throughout the United Kingdom without injury to the Public Revenue; and after mature consideration are unanimous in the opinion that a Uniform Rate of One Penny for each Letter not exceeding one half ounce may be established without ultimate prejudice to the Revenue, and with great advantage to the Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of the Empire, whilst those evasions of the Law, and hindrances to written correspondence amongst the various Classes of Society, may thereby be prevented, which the present Post Office Regulations and Charges so powerfully encourage.

They therefore earnestly entreat your Honourable House to establish by Law a Uniform Rate of Postage of One Penny throughout the United Kingdom, upon the plan suggested by Mr. Rowland Hill.

16th April, 1839.

The House remit to the Hall Committee to consider Mr. Findlay's communication relative to providing a Hall, &c., in the Building about to be erected by the Glasgow Bank in Virginia street.

2nd May, 1839.

The Report of the Committee on the Cathedral was read and unanimously approved of, and ordered to be engrossed in the Minute Book.

It was moved by Robert Findlay, Esq., that the House subscribe the sum of Five Hundred Pounds towards the Renovation and Completion of the Cathedral, according to the Plans executed by Mr. James Gillespie Graham, which Motion was seconded by John Strang, Esq. Whereupon Charles Hutchison, Esq., moved as an amendment that the consideration of the question be delayed for six months; and no person having seconded the amendment, Mr. Findlay's motion was declared to be unanimously carried.

Report of the Committee upon the proposed grant by the Merchants House towards the Renovation and Completion of the Cathedral of Glasgow.

The Committee have considered this question, as remitted to them by the Directors, in two points of view.

First,—As a public question. How far the character of the City is affected by the present dilapidated condition of the Cathedral? Whether it ought to be Improved, and whether the Improvements proposed are judicious, and likely to be creditable to the taste of the Citizens? Second,—Whether and how far the Merchants' House, as an Incorporation, are interested in the proposed improvements?

In regard to the first question, the Committee feel convinced that the character of the City has suffered materially in the eyes of every visitor of intelligence and taste, from the neglected and dilapidated state of the Cathedral, so different from the high state of repair in which the English Cathedrals are maintained, yet to none of which the Cathedral of Glasgow yields in point of Antiquity or in Architectural or Historical interest.

In regard to the opinion of the Committee on the steps which are now proposed to be taken to redeem the character of the City in respect of the dilapidated condition of the Cathedral, they beg to report that they have carefully inspected the Plans and

Elevations drawn for that purpose by Mr. James Gillespie Graham, and find that, while they secure the permanence and stability of the structure, they are in perfect accordance and harmony with the ancient portion of the Cathedral; that the general, simple, and effective character of the original Architecture is well maintained in these designs; that the composition of the large masses, and also of the details, is very beautiful, and highly creditable to the taste and professional skill of Mr. Graham. The Committee find that the opinion they have now expressed is corroborated by the best Architectural judges. Mr. John Britton, the highest living authority, has stated in the strongest terms his approbation of the designs for the Transepts and Western front, as calculated at once to confer honour on the City, and on all contributing to so patriotic an undertaking. Mr. Rickman, the well-known writer on Gothic Architecture, and who has with great skill and success completed several of the previously unfinished Ecclesiastical structures in England, is equally decided in his approbation.

The Directors will also recollect that the Designs in question have been subjected to the scrutiny of the Government Officers, and have met with the sanction of the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury.

In regard to the second question, Whether or not the Merchants House be interested in these improvements? the Committee beg to report that the Merchants House, in their Municipal capacity, have taken an interest in, and given Contributions from their funds to promote objects of importance which they believed to be conducive to the prosperity or credit of the Community; and upon this ground alone the Committee think the House are warranted to subscribe to this great public object. But they take leave to impress upon the Directors the very peculiar interest which the Merchants House have in the contemplated operations, from the benefit they will confer on the property of the House, in immediate contiguity to the Cathedral.

The formation of the Necropolis by the Merchants House, and the judicious Regulations under which it has become one of the most interesting Cemeteries in the kingdom, if not in Europe, were based upon its vicinity to our great Civic Monument, coupled with the picturesque nature of the grounds, and the works already executed by the House, and those which are still in progress, while they are most appropriately of a solemn character, are also of a highly decorative character. All improvements, then, upon the property in the neighbourhood, conducted in a similar spirit, concentrates the attention of the public upon the property of the Merchants House; and no improvement, in the opinion of the Committee, can do this so effectually, or will prove so generally attractive, as the completion of the Cathedral. These Plans also very properly embrace the amenity of the surrounding grounds, and the removal and levelling of the soil between the Public Highway and the entrance to the Necropolis, thereby greatly facilitating and beautifying the approach to the Cemetery.

In conclusion, the Committee are decidedly of opinion that, while the Citizens of Glasgow will have the credit of this great work, and what now exists as a reproach converted into a great civic and national ornament, the Merchants House will derive

from it considerable pecuniary advantage. The Committee therefore unanimously recommend that the House subscribe liberally to the proposed undertaking —Signed James Browne, D.G., Ro. Findlay, John Leadbetter, Archd. M'Lellan, William Brown.

11th June, 1839.

The House, in consideration of the state of the Funds and of the Pension List, no Pensions having lapsed since the last Annual Balance, instruct the Collector not to publish any Advertisement for Applications for the Charity of the House this year.

The Conveyance in favour of the House by Her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests of the piece of Ground lying between the Wall of the Cathedral Burying Ground and the Molendinar Burn was laid before the Meeting.

28th June, 1839.

The Dean of Guild having stated to the Meeting that he is a Shareholder in the Glasgow Water Company, the House appointed Mr. Archibald Newall their Commissioner for examining and auditing the Accounts of the said Company.

The House approved of a Report by the Cemetery Committee, recommending the House to agree to a proposal made by Mr. Hugh Tennent for an excambion of a piece of his ground, in lieu of an addition to the Playground attached to the School-House, for the site of which the Merchants House formerly agreed to give Ground, and remitted to the Cemetery Committee to see the same completed.

10th September, 1839.

There was read to the House a letter addressed to the Dean of Guild by Mr. Robert Lamond, on behalf of the Subscribers to a Monument about to be erected to the Memory of the late Hugh Hamilton, first President of the Glasgow Co-operative Conservative

Association, requesting the grant of a piece of Ground in the Necropolis on which to raise the structure ; and the House having taken the same into consideration, decline compliance with the request, being apprehensive that it might lead to numerous applications of a similar kind.

12th November, 1839.

The Dean of Guild stated to the Directors that he had called them together for the special purpose of appointing a Successor to their late lamented friend Charles Stirling, Esq., and suggested that, as a mark of the respect in which the memory of the deceased was held by the House, his brother, William Stirling, Esq., should be elected his successor in the Direction ; whereupon the said William Stirling, Esq., was unanimously elected a Director of the House, in room of Charles Stirling, Esq., deceased.

2nd January, 1840.

The House having had under consideration the Bill about to be brought into Parliament by the Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow, entituled, "A Bill for altering and amending the mode of Assessment for the Maintenance of the Poor within the City of Glasgow, 1839," it was moved and seconded that the House delay giving any deliverance on the subject at present; and it was also moved and seconded that the House approve of the general principles of the Bill, and support it by Petitioning the Legislature in its favour, without incurring any expense.

Without coming to a decision, the House ultimately appointed a Committee—viz., the Dean of Guild, Convener, Messrs. William Brown, William Hamilton, Archd. M'Lellan, Wm. Richmond, James Campbell, and Alex. Wardrop—to consider the Bill, and report to a Meeting of the House to be called within eight days.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of a Bill, also about to be brought into Parliament by the Magistrates and Council of the City, entitled, "A Bill for farther Deepening and Improving the River Clyde and Enlarging the Harbour of Glasgow, and for constructing a Wet Dock in connection with the said River and Harbour;" and the House unanimously approved of said Bill, and agreed to Petition the Legislature that it may be passed into a Law.

10th January, 1840.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to receive the Report of the Committee appointed on the 2nd day of January current, to consider the Bill about to be introduced into Parliament by the Magistrates and Council of the City, entitled, "A Bill for explaining, altering, and amending the mode of Assessment for the Maintenance of the Poor within the City of Glasgow,"—

The Minute or Report by the said Committee having been read and discussed, it was moved and seconded, that the House approve of the Report, and adopt the recommendation therein contained, and that the Petition in favour of the Bill be prepared at sight of the Dean of Guild, and transmitted at the proper time for presentation to any Member of Parliament his Lordship may approve of; which Motion was carried by eighteen to two,—Mr. Archibald M'Lellan and Mr. William Richmond being the dissentients, the latter on the ground that he considered it improper altogether to abandon the system of Assessment upon means and substance.

The House appointed the following a Committee to prepare and transmit the Petition agreed to at the last Meeting of the House, in favour of the Clyde Navigation Bill:—viz., the Dean of Guild, Convener, Mr. Archibald M'Lellan, Mr. Wardrop, and Mr. Paterson.

The Petition to the House of Commons regarding the Poor Rates Bill set forth,—

That for many years past great dissatisfaction has been felt and experienced by the Citizens of Glasgow in consequence of the inquisitorial, capricious, and unjust system hitherto pursued in apportioning the Assessment levied for the behoof of the Poor within the City.

That the grievance has been greatly aggravated of late by the removal of many of the most respectable and opulent Firms beyond the bounds of the Royalty, solely with a view to escape from this increasing evil.

That in the Suburban districts of the City the funds for relief of the Poor are raised by an Assessment upon Rental, and in practice it has been found that this system works satisfactorily.

That your Petitioners have had under consideration a Bill introduced, or about to be introduced into your Honourable House, entitled, "A Bill for explaining, altering, and amending the mode of Assessment for the Maintenance of the Poor within the City of Glasgow;" and their conviction is that the mode of Assessment therein contemplated will be generally acceptable to the Citizens, and, in equalizing the pressure of the Poores Rates throughout the whole of this extensive community, will add to the prosperity of the City by removing a disadvantage under which it has long laboured.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to pass the said Bill into a Law, &c.

10th March, 1840.

At a Quarterly Meeting of the Merchants House, there was read to the Meeting a letter from Henry Dunlop, Esquire, Lord Provost of the City, as Convener of the Local Committee for the reception of the British Association, which meets here in the month of September next, requesting his Lordship, the Dean of Guild, to bring under the consideration of the House the propriety of granting a sum of Money to assist in defraying the expense necessarily attendant on such a Meeting; and the House, after considerable discussion, and whilst admitting the peculiar and weighty claims urged on behalf of the Association, felt it to be their duty to adhere to the established practice of the House, and decline to appropriate any portion of the Funds for the object in question.

An application from the Committee for promoting the erection of a Monument in the City to His Grace the Duke of Wellington was also declined on the same grounds.

The Dean of Guild reported that the Committee appointed by the House had attended a conference with Committees from the Council and Trades House, on the 22nd day of January last, on the subject of Burgess Entries; that Mr. Leadbetter, as Convener of the Committee of Council, had submitted a Motion to the Joint Committees,

“That the Entry-Money upon the admission of Stranger Merchant Burgesses should be reduced to Five Guineas, and upon the admission of Stranger Trades Burgesses to Three Guineas, besides the usual Stamps. This reduction to be prospective, and not to apply to persons who have received notice to enter.”

And that the Committee of the Merchants House had declined to accede to any reduction of the Entry-Money.

Mr. Leadbetter stated that he considered it his duty to bring the subject again under the consideration of the House, and renewed the Motion for a reduction of the Entry-Money, which he had previously made at the Meeting of the Joint Committees, but, on the suggestion of Mr. Archibald M'Lellan and Mr. William Hamilton, it was agreed to delay consideration of the matter for the present.

10th April, 1840.

On the Motion of William Brown, seconded by Alexander Wardrop, the following Committee was unanimously appointed to make enquiry as to the Foreign Trade and Diplomacy of the Country,—with power to employ professional Accountants if they see proper, and to report to the House—viz., Mr. William Brown, Convener, John Leadbetter, James Black, James Boyle, jun., Archibald Newall, William Richmond, John Buchanan, jun., Hugh Cogan, and R. Rodger—five a quorum.

12th May, 1840.

The Dean of Guild stated to the Directors that he had requested their attendance to-day for the purpose of laying before them the Municipal Bill for Scotland, lately introduced into Parliament by the

Lord Advocate and Mr. Fox Maule. His Lordship, after adverting to various objectionable Clauses in the Bill, then read to the Meeting the heads of a Petition to Parliament against it, which the House unanimously approved of, and appointed the Dean of Guild, James Brown, Convener, and Messrs. William Hamilton, William Brown, James Black, and John Pollok, as a Committee to frame Petitions against the Bill, to transmit the same to such Members of both Houses of Parliament as they shall approve of, and to take all measures they may consider necessary to ensure the rejection of the Bill, or the exclusion of the City of Glasgow from its operations.

The Petition to the House of Commons set forth,—

That your Petitioners observe with regret a Bill has been again introduced into Parliament during the present Session, of which the ostensible object is, like that of its precursors in former Sessions, “To provide for the better Regulation of Municipal Corporations in Royal Burghs in Scotland.”

That the Bill is, *prima facie*, obviously liable to serious objection, inasmuch as it attempts to subject the Cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow to one and the same set of Regulations with the smallest Royal Burghs in Scotland, notwithstanding the existence of manifest and most material differences in the circumstances and condition of these several Communities.

That this Bill is hitherto quite uncalled for by the Communities whose affairs it pretends to regulate, is unjust in principle, will be found inexpedient and injurious in its operation, is defective in details with regard to such a City as Glasgow, and is not calculated to attain the objects which it professes to have in view.

That the Inhabitants of the Suburban districts by which the Ancient City of Glasgow is surrounded—namely, the Burghs of Calton and the Village of Bridgeton on the East, the Barony of Gorbals on the South, and the Burgh of Anderston and the Lands of Blythswood on the West—are not to be subjected in any of the Customary Duties leviable in the Ancient City, nor to any Burghal Taxes whatever, except to the extent of a limited new Assessment for general Municipal purposes if required; and are to be exempted from all responsibility for the debts or other legal obligations incumbent on the Corporation of the Ancient City; and yet the Councillors to be sent from those Suburban districts, who will probably constitute a majority of the Council, are to have the administration, management, and disposal, and consequently to enjoy the benefit of the Estate, heritable and moveable, of the Corporation of the City, created by Taxes, formerly levied within the Royalty, and of its Annual Revenue, arising partly at this moment from the very customary Taxes from which they themselves are exempted.

That the Annual Revenue of the Ancient City is considerable, but is almost all allocated and destined to certain definite purposes, such as the maintenance of Churches and the payment of the Stipends of Nine Ministers, the maintenance of the High School and the payment of the Salaries of its Masters, the expense of Criminal proceedings, the interest of borrowed Money, &c., so as to leave only a small surplus at the disposal of the Council; but the new Councillors from the Suburban Districts are not to be in any shape responsible for the Debts of the Ancient City, or bound by its obligations, and will thus have the power of diverting those Annual Revenues from their existing legal destinations to other purposes in which the Suburban Districts may have a local interest; that the provision introduced into the Bill, that the separate Funds of united Burghs shall be administered for their separate behoof, is quite fallacious, and if not altogether impracticable in operation, will to a certainty prove ineffectual for the purpose for which it professes to be intended.

To vest the possession, control, and administration of Funds in a whole Body of individuals of whom, or of whose Constituents, only a part are entitled to receive the benefit, is practically absurd; for in such a case the application of the Funds will infallibly follow and be determined by the power of Administration and Control, and those Managers who have no right to the Funds will very soon contrive to get a share.

That while this Bill affects to make a complete Municipal union and amalgamation of the City and Suburban Districts, Burghs, and Barony and Village, its special clauses, from Sections 4 to 8 inclusive, leave the union quite defective, intricate, and confused. There is to be no union with regard to the Customary Taxes of the City, or as to Poors Rates (in all these departments two separate and different systems and modes of Assessments are to be kept up within the united territory); and instead of being removed to a distance, and placed under a general Road Trust, it is expressly provided that Turnpike Gates may continue to be placed in any Street or Road within that Territory. That the scheme of making the whole Constituency of the Parliamentary Territory, amounting to about 8,000 persons, choose the Councillors, and through them the Magistrates, instead of allowing the Local Constituencies to choose their own Councils and Magistrates, is obviously the reverse of improvement; for when chosen by the whole Constituency it is plain these Magistrates must be divided into Classes, and allocated to the different districts in the Centre, and in the East, South, and West—namely, the Ancient City, the Burgh of Calton, the Barony of Gorbals, and the Burgh of Anderston; and it seems at best an idle and useless proceeding first to unite the Constituencies for the election of their Magistrates, and then to disunite and separate these Magistrates, that they may be enabled to discharge their necessary functions in their respective districts.

That while an increase in the number of Councillors might be proper, the number of Magistrates proposed for Glasgow, as extended to the Parliamentary Boundaries,—namely, six Bailies, besides the Provost,—is quite inadequate for the discharge of the necessary public duties, being only about a third of the present number of Bailies in the City and adjacent Barony and Burghs.

Were the Bailies to have Salaries, and, like Stipendiary Magistrates, to devote their whole time to Public, Judicial, and Police business, the number proposed might perhaps be sufficient, but in Glasgow and in the adjacent Barony and Burghs, the Magistrates are chiefly Gentlemen engaged in active Mercantile and Manufacturing business, and can spare only a portion of their time to the public; and the limitation of the Office to another and inferior description of persons would to a certainty impair the dignity and diminish the efficiency of the Magistracy. That the power of abolishing long-established customary duties ought not, as proposed, to be vested in the Members of Council solely, who have an obvious inducement to please in this way the individuals who vote for them. Such an abolition has already taken place in Glasgow to a greater extent than was consistent with absolute wisdom, or than the existing Law perhaps authorized, to the benefit, no doubt, of sundry individuals, but without the Community getting their Bread or their Beer one farthing cheaper than before.

That no good reason can be assigned for transferring to the Sheriff, and withdrawing from the Dean of Guild Court of this City, the jurisdiction relative to Ruinous Houses, which it has possessed for upwards of 200 years, agreeably both to the Statute and Common Law of Scotland, as if the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow, composed of the Dean, of four intelligent Merchants, elected Annually by the Merchants House, and of four skilful and experienced Tradesmen elected Annually by the Trades House, with the legal advice they have possessed for nearly a Century, were not at least equally able to exercise such a species of jurisdiction as any Sheriff Court in Scotland.

That your Petitioners, constituting the great body of the Mercantile interest of Glasgow, and being liable to be deeply affected by any defalcation or misapplication of the Municipal property, as they must chiefly bear the pressure of any Assessment consequent thereupon, cannot but view with apprehension the spirit and tendency of this measure, so uncalled for, so subversive of the Ancient Institutions of the Country, and so much calculated to increase Political dissension among the different Classes of the Community, that your Petitioners deem it unnecessary to state at greater length their objections to this Bill.

18th June, 1840.

On the Motion of Mr. William Richmond, seconded by Mr. Archibald McLellan, the House unanimously agreed to present an Address to the Queen, congratulating Her Majesty on her late providential escape from a murderous attempt (by Oxford) to destroy Her Majesty's life.

25th August, 1840.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House of Glasgow, specially called by advertisements in the Glasgow News-

papers, to appoint three persons to be Trustees under an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, "An Act for farther deepening and improving the River Clyde and enlarging the Harbour of Glasgow, and for constructing a Wet Dock in connection with the said River and Harbour," it was moved by Robert Findlay, Esq., seconded by James A. Anderson, Esq., that William Hamilton, of Messrs. Robert Bogle & Co., John Pollok, of Messrs. Pollok, Gilmour, & Co., William Gray, of Messrs. Wighton, Gray, & Co., all Merchants in Glasgow, be appointed Trustees on the part of the Merchants House under the foresaid Act, until the time fixed by the Act for the next Election of Trustees. No other person having been proposed, the said William Hamilton, John Pollok, and William Gray were declared unanimously elected to be Trustees on the part of the Merchants House.

23rd March, 1841.

The House having heard the Report of the Hall Committee, to the effect that they considered the sites in Hutcheson Street and Queen Street preferable to any that had been brought under their notice, and recommending the House to confine their attention to these two sites,

Mr. Leadbetter, seconded by Mr. Somerville, moved that the House approve of the site in Hutcheson Street, in connection with the new Court Houses, for a new Hall and other accommodation, according to the Plans submitted, and remit to the Hall Committee to complete the Buildings.

Whereupon Mr. Walkinshaw moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. Freeland, that the Meeting does not approve of the proposal for purchasing a site and erecting a Building in Hutcheson Street for the purposes required by the Merchants House.

And the said Motion and amendment having been put to the vote, the Motion was carried by a majority of sixteen to nine.

Pursuant to notice given at last Meeting, Mr Wardrop moved that the House grant a Precept for Twenty-five Pounds in aid of the Glasgow Seaman's Friend Society, which was seconded by Mr. Somerville, and unanimously agreed to.

22nd April, 1841.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had convened the present Meeting of Matriculated Members for the purpose of laying before them the proceedings of the Directors and the Hall Committee relative to the erection of a New Hall and other accommodation in connection with the proposed new Public Offices in Hutcheson Street, and in order that their sanction might be obtained before proceeding to expend so large a portion of the Capital of the House as would necessarily be required.

At his Lordship's request, the Minute of Directors of 23rd March, 1841, and that of the Hall Committee of 14th April current, having been read to the Meeting, Mr. Leadbetter moved, seconded by Mr. John Ure, that the same be approved of.

The Motion was carried by a large majority.

28th April, 1841.

The Dean of Guild stated to the Directors that he had requested their attendance to-day for the purpose of laying before them the Municipal Bill for Scotland, lately re-introduced into Parliament by the Lord Advocate and Mr. Fox Maule. His Lordship commented on various objectionable clauses in the Bill; and the House unanimously resolved to offer their strenuous opposition to it; and the House appointed a Committee to prepare Petitions to both Houses of Parliament against the Bill, to employ Agents and Counsel, to send a Deputation to London, and to take all measures they may consider necessary to ensure the rejection of the Bill, or the exclusion of the City of Glasgow from its operation.

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17th November, 1841.

The Dean of Guild stated to the Directors that the chief reason for calling them together on the present occasion was to propose that the House should present Addresses of Congratulation to the Queen and Prince Albert on the Birth of a Male Heir to the Throne of the United Kingdom. His Lordship's suggestion was unanimously adopted; and drafts of Addresses to Her Majesty and His Royal Highness having been read and approved of, were ordered to be transmitted for presentation in the usual way. The House also agreed to dine together on an early day in honour of the happy event, and appointed the Dean, with three other Members as a Committee, to make the necessary arrangements, and to invite the heads of departments to dine with the House on the occasion.

7th January, 1842.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to consider the propriety of voting Resolutions and a grant of Money in favour of the Carlisle Railway Survey, the Dean of Guild stated that he had been induced to convene the present Meeting for the purpose of giving the House an opportunity of expressing an opinion, along with the other Public Bodies in the City, regarding the projected line of Railway between Scotland and England.

Robert Findlay, Esquire, after a short statement, in the course of which he stated that, in consequence of the present state of the Funds of the House, it was not his intention to make any Motion for a grant of Money, moved that the House should adopt the following Resolutions, viz.:—

1st. Resolved, That from the Report of the Commissioners appointed by Government to inquire into the various lines of Railway communication between England and Scotland, it appears, that after a most anxious and careful investigation into the comparative merits of each of the five different lines of which surveys and estimates were submitted to them, the Commissioners have expressed a strong and decided opinion that

the line by Lockerby and Clydesdale is preferable to all others, and deserving of the support of Government and the public, as being the line which will secure the greatest amount of national and general advantage, by affording the shortest and least expensive means of communication to the largest amount of Population, and therefore holding out the best prospect of remuneration to the undertakers.

2nd. Resolved, That as this line is obviously, and beyond all doubt, calculated to benefit Glasgow in a peculiar manner, the most active and strenuous measures should be immediately adopted to secure its completion, the more especially, that if such measures be not now adopted, the support of Government will, in terms of the Commissioners' Report, be transferred to the line from Newcastle to Edinburgh, by the East Coast of Scotland.

3rd. Resolved, That in these circumstances it is with great pleasure that this House have learned that, at a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of Glasgow, held upon the 15th day of December, a Committee was appointed to co-operate with and assist the Grand Junction and other Railway Companies in procuring the requisite surveys, and taking other measures necessary for promoting the undertaking.

4th. That this House will contribute its influence and warm support in the furtherance of the objects of the Committee.

And the said Motion having been seconded by James Brown, Esq., was, with the exception of Mr. Leadbetter's vote, carried unanimously—Mr. Leadbetter dissenting on the ground that the said line of Railway is not likely ever to be executed, and that it is neither the best line for the interests of Scotland nor of Glasgow; that two lines, one on the East and one on the West Coast, will most likely be ultimately executed, and which will prove more beneficial than the line in question.

14th January, 1842.

The Minutes of the Hall Committee of this date and previous dates were laid before the House, together with Lists of the various Offers made for executing the different departments of the New Buildings, and a Report by Messrs. Clark and Bell, Architects, showing that the lowest Offers amounted in whole to the sum of £4,952, 1s. 3½d.; all of which the House approved of, and remitted to the Hall Committee to accept the lowest Offers, conform to the Architects' Report.

26th April, 1842.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to consider the propriety of addressing Sir Robert Peel on his Financial Measures,

The following Resolutions were moved by James Somerville, Esq., and seconded by John Smith, Esq., LL.D.:—

1st. That whilst the House has not hitherto given expression to any opinion regarding the Financial Measures brought forward by the present or the late Administration, or taken any part in the agitation which has prevailed in support of either, the accumulation of Commercial distress, the pressure upon the Labouring Population from the high price of provisions and deficiency of employment, the inadequacy of the Revenue to meet the National Expenditure, and the unexampled keenness with which different classes of the Community have advocated their own interests in proposing remedies for those evils, are events of too important and painful a character to have escaped the observation of the House.

2nd. That the promulgation, by the First Minister of the Crown, of a scheme for effecting the most important and extensive alterations in the Financial and Commercial Policy of the Nation which has for many years been brought forward, presents an occasion on which it becomes the duty of the House to record its opinion.

3rd. That whilst the House cannot overlook or undervalue the objection which has been urged against a Property and Income Tax,—that it is attended with difficulties of an inquisitorial character,—yet, as a temporary measure, affording apparently the only means of Equalizing the Income and Expenditure of the Country, the House approves of the Ministerial scheme.

4th. That in the proposed modification of the Duties on Foreign and Colonial productions, the House regard with great satisfaction the important and comprehensive revision that the Import Duties have undergone, and consider that a commencement has been made in a department of Finance which must tend greatly to advance the Trade and Manufactures of the Country; and they trust that, while every practicable regard is had to the interests of the particular branches of Trade affected by these changes, efforts will continue to be made further to relieve the Tariff of all unnecessary restrictions.

5th. That the Lord Dean of Guild being at present in London, a copy of these Resolutions be signed by the Chairman (James Browne, Esq.), and transmitted to his Lordship, with a request that he will have the goodness to present the same to Sir Robert Peel.

James Richardson, Esq., moved the previous question, which was seconded by Arthur Pollok, Esq.; and the House having divided, the Resolutions were carried by eighteen to two, the mover and seconder alone voting for the previous question.

14th June, 1842.

The Dean of Guild proposed, and the House unanimously agreed, to present an Address to the Queen, congratulating Her Majesty on her late providential escape from Assassination; and the draft of an Address having been read and considered, the same was unanimously approved of.

The Dean stated that, by special appointment, he had waited upon Sir Robert Peel, and presented to him the Resolutions agreed to by the House on the 26th of April last; that Sir James Graham and the Chancellor of the Exchequer were present on the occasion; that Sir Robert read the Resolutions aloud, and expressed himself highly gratified that his Financial Measures had met with the approbation of so respectable a body as the Merchants House of Glasgow.

The Dean of Guild laid before the House a letter addressed to his Lordship by Sir James Campbell, Lord Provost, supporting an application on behalf of the Committee of the Unemployed Operatives, to the effect that the House would grant to the said Committee One Thousand Carts of Metal, from the Quarry at Wester Craigs, free of Lordship. And the House, in consideration of the great distress at present existing, unanimously agreed to comply with the application, and instructed the Collector to intimate to the Tacksman of the Quarry that the Lordship of Sevenpence per Cart will be deducted from the charge against him at next settlement on such quantity of Metal as shall be furnished by him to the Relief Committee, not exceeding in whole one thousand carts.

26th August, 1842.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had convened the House for the purpose of submitting to their consideration the propriety of presenting an Address to the Queen, on the auspicious occasion of Her Majesty's approaching visit to Scotland; which was unanimously agreed to.

The House then resolved that the Deputation should consist of the Lord Dean of Guild and the two gentlemen who had last preceded his Lordship in the Chair,—viz., James Browne, Esq., and William Brown, Esq., of Kilmardinny—and remitted to the Deputation to prepare the Address; and also to prepare and present an Address to Prince Albert, if it shall be ascertained that the other Public Bodies are to address His Royal Highness.

25th November, 1842.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had convened them on the present occasion for the purpose of submitting to their consideration the propriety of representing to the proper Authorities the great inconvenience experienced by the Public in consequence of the existing arrangements regarding the transmission of the Mails between Glasgow and Edinburgh.

The House unanimously approved of his Lordship's suggestion, and remitted to him and the Clerk to prepare and transmit a Memorial to the Postmaster General on the subject.

[The Memorial stated that there were only two Mails despatched daily—one by Railway at 11 a.m., and another by the Road at 10 p.m., so that in no case "can Letters be answered by Post in less than eighteen hours, and in most cases twenty-four are required, notwithstanding that Railway Trains pass five times daily."]

Mr. Robert Findlay mentioned that a Subscription had been opened in Glasgow for the purpose of procuring a Marble Statue of a late distinguished Citizen, Mr. Kirkman Finlay; and it had been suggested that the most appropriate situation in which it could be placed was the Hall of the Merchants House, now in course of erection. Mr. Findlay said he thought the present a proper time to make known the views of the Subscribers, that gentlemen might consider the matter before it came before them in a formal manner. The Dean of Guild said he had no doubt the proposal would be favourably received by the House, and in the meantime recommended it to the attention of the Directors.

5th May, 1843.

The Dean of Guild stated that on the 2nd instant he had learned that the Bill now before Parliament, promoted by the Commissioners of Police of this City, contained clauses materially affecting and abridging the rights of the Merchants House and the Dean of Guild Court; and as the time for presenting Petitions against the Bill was then just about to expire, and did not admit of delaying the matter before the House, he had considered it his duty immediately to forward a Petition against the Bill, in order to keep the matter open, and that the House might have an opportunity of opposing the Bill if it should be considered proper to do so, and he had taken the earliest opportunity of bringing the subject before the House by convening the present Meeting.

The House having considered the statement of the Dean of Guild, and the Petition to Parliament therein referred to, it was moved by Robert Findlay, Esq., seconded by William Hamilton, Esq., that the House approve of the steps adopted by the Dean of Guild, and of the Petition transmitted by his Lordship; which was unanimously agreed to.

On the suggestion of the Dean of Guild, the House unanimously agreed to present an Address to the Queen, congratulating Her Majesty on the birth of a Princess.

13th January, 1843.

In reference to the Petition to Parliament against the Police Bill, agreed to at the last Quarterly Meeting of the House, the Dean of Guild intimated that the Commissioners of Police had agreed to strike out the clauses objected to by the House, so that the rights and privileges of the Merchants House and the Dean of Guild Court remained as heretofore.

21st September, 1843.

The House, upon the Motion of the Dean of Guild, adopted the following Memorial:—



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MECHANICS' HALL IN JUDGELSON STREET.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Ripon, President of the India Board. The Memorial of the Merchants House of Glasgow

Respectfully Sheweth,—That the Merchants of this City, since the respective periods at which the trade to India and China was opened to private enterprise generally, have been engaged to a large and increasing extent therein, and are consequently deeply interested in the regular, secure, and expeditious transmission of the Mails to and from those countries.

That, experiencing and appreciating the benefits which have resulted to the Commerce of the Country by the introduction of the Overland Route to India, your Memorialists hail with satisfaction every practical improvement therein by which the interchange of communication can be rendered more rapid and complete, than which nothing can tend more effectually to give expansion to the Trade of countries which, notwithstanding their distance from each other, seemed destined to reciprocate the advantages of Commerce to an extent scarcely estimable at present, even by the most sanguine of those now engaged in it.

That regretting, as your Memorialists do, the inconvenience and loss to the Country now experienced by the non-arrival of the Overland Mail, due on the 1st current, they would most respectfully recommend to your Lordship's attention and countenance the proposal which has been made to your Lordship, and through you to Her Majesty's Government, by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Packet Company, under which, by the employment of powerful steam vessels between this Country and Alexandria, and between Suez and Bombay, they would become bound under a penalty, and at an expense greatly less than that now incurred, to become the conveyers of the Overland Mails with such promptitude and despatch as to limit the time of transit to not more than twenty-eight days, thus lessening the time at present required by six or seven days, and securing the saving of one month in our correspondence with the near parts of India, and in proportion facilitating it with our more distant communications to India and China.

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May it therefore please your Lordship to adopt such measures as shall effect without delay an object so desirable, providing, also, as soon as possible, a direct monthly communication with China.

10th October, 1843.

[The House agreed to celebrate the opening of the New Hall by a Public Dinner.]

12th March, 1844.

On the Motion of the Dean of Guild the House agreed to present the following Memorial to Sir Robert Peel, praying for the repeal of the duty on Cotton Wool:—

That your Memorialists, as representing a great Manufacturing and Commercial Community, are deeply interested in every measure which can give permanence and expansion to the Commerce and Manufactures of the Country.

That the imposition of any considerable duty on the Raw Material of any Manufacture which employs vast numbers of Operatives, and of which a large proportion is Exported to Foreign Markets, is now very generally admitted to be unsound in policy, and consequently adverse to the interests of the Country.

That the continuance of a duty of five-sixteenths of a penny per pound on Cotton Wool imported from and grown in Possessions not British enhances very materially the cost of those fabrics in which a large quantity of Cotton is consumed, and has tended to originate and increase the competition which the sale of such products experiences in various Foreign Markets, where our rivals from the United States are met as extensive Sellers of similar Goods, often at very low prices, which at least have had the advantage of being manufactured where no such duty on the Raw Material exists.

That so long as the revenue arising from this duty could not be dispensed with, your Memorialists have felt that the removal of the Tax was not to be expected; but now that the high credit of the Country, and its increasing financial resources, under, it is to be hoped, a progressively improving state of things, warrant the expectation that this impost, which for several years has amounted to from six to seven per cent. on the cost of so important a Raw Material, may be either wholly withdrawn, or so much reduced as to furnish only an equivalent for the expense of collection.

Your Memorialists are well aware that this is a subject to which your attention has frequently been turned, and that its importance cannot fail, in the altered state of the finances of the Country, to have the immediate deliberate consideration of your Lordship and the other Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, in which case they feel assured that the prayer of this Memorial will ere long be granted.

19th June, 1844.

The Dean of Guild reported to the House the Resolution of the Hall Committee of this date, recommending that the whole of the Tradesmen's Accounts should be paid, under deduction of the sum of £69, 19s. 7d., as stated in the Committee's Minute. The House approved of the same, and authorized the Collector to pay the Accounts accordingly [viz., £6,473, 19s.], and also to pay the Account due to Mr. George Binnie of £80, 10s. 6d., and Two Hundred Guineas to Messrs. Clark and Bell, Architects, as recommended by the Committee, in full of their claim, under deduction of the sums already paid them to account.

10th September, 1844.

The House agreed to present an Address of Congratulation to Her Majesty on the birth of a Prince.

10th December, 1844.

On the Motion of Mr. Newall, the Meeting resolved that two Ornamental Lamps, with appropriate devices, should be erected at the entrance to the Lord Dean of Guild's Private Residence, as a distinction becoming the official head of the Merchants House, and the Second Magistrate of the City.

27th January, 1845.

A Letter was read to the House, dated 24th January, 1845, addressed to the Dean of Guild by Mr. Alexander Cunninghame, of the Northern Lights Office, Edinburgh, intimating the intention of the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses to erect a Lighthouse on the Point of Ardnamurchan, and requesting to be favoured with any observations which might occur to the House on the subject. But before giving any opinion, the House instructed the Collector to write to Mr. Cunninghame, and ascertain whether Clyde Ships generally, or from what places vessels entering the Clyde, would be subject to the duty intended to be imposed for the maintenance of the Lighthouse.

There was read to the House a Letter addressed to the Collector by Robert M'Cann, Esq., intimating that the late John Ryburn, Esq., Merchant in Glasgow, by his Deed of Settlement had directed a Donation of One Hundred Pounds, free of Legacy duty, to be paid to the Merchants House at the expiration of Six Months after his death, and that payment would be made accordingly on the 30th day of May next. And the House directed that their acceptance of the Bequest should be recorded, with a unanimous expression of their gratitude and thanks for the same.

The Dean of Guild, as Convener of the Committee appointed by the House on the Currency and Banking System of Scotland, laid before the House a series of Resolutions prepared by him, and revised by the Committee; and the same having been read and fully discussed, it was moved by Robert Paterson, Esq., seconded by William Cuthbertson, Esq., that the House approve and adopt the Resolutions. The Motion was carried unanimously. Thereafter it was moved and seconded, that the Resolutions be advertised; further, that the thanks of the House be given to the Committee for the care and attention they had displayed in preparing the Resolutions; which Motions were also carried unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. That the Merchants House, comprehending in its Members much of the Commercial and Manufacturing Interest of Glasgow, and having always considered it to be a duty, as a Public deliberative Body, to take an interest in the proceedings of Government and Parliament in matters affecting the National welfare, feel called upon to express their opinion on a Measure, said to be contemplated by Her Majesty's Ministers, by which the present Banking System of Scotland is intended to be assimilated to that of England.

2nd. That the history of every Country proves that a sound Monetary system is essential to the well-being and prosperity of a Nation; and although the Monetary system of England and of Scotland consisted of a Metallic and of a Paper Currency, and were the same down to 1829, when the issue of One Pound Notes was suppressed in England, yet in the management and rules of their respective systems there were many essential points of difference: while in England the Banking system exhibited from time to time in its issues the greatest irregularities, and by numerous Bankruptcies the most disastrous effects, in Scotland excessive issues were prevented by a well-regulated system of Exchanges, and Bankruptcies were unknown, except in one or two cases in the course of a Century, and even then the public lost next to nothing.

That to remedy the evils of the English Currency, the Governments of the day obtained from time to time the sanction of Parliament to certain Measures by which it was sought to apply a remedy,—in particular, to restrict the Paper Currency to the minimum value of £5, and in last session, by restricting the Number of Banks and their Issues, and requiring the Bank of England to keep its business as a Bank of Issue separate from its other business, and conferring on it the privilege of making its Notes a Legal Tender everywhere but at the Bank in London.

3rd. That Sir Robert Peel's Bank Measures of last session were received and sanctioned by Parliament as calculated to remedy certain ascertained evils of the

existing system in England, and intended to ensure steadiness and permanency in the Currency of the Country as a Measure of value; yet it is no arrogance to say that, in one of the most complicated questions of National Polity, the wisdom and adequacy of these Measures can be proved only by their effects, and years are required for the experiment.

That while in England these Measures seemed to be called for, no such necessity exists in Scotland for legislative interference in the Banking system, where it has been so well conducted, and held in great esteem by all classes, and been the stimulating and sustaining cause of much of Scotland's industry and prosperity, and nothing short of a proved defect in the system ought to warrant legislative interference in a great National interest, and against a Nation's feelings unanimously expressed in its favour.

4th. That it may be urged as a ground for interference, that Scotland being an integral part of Great Britain, the monetary systems of England and Scotland ought to be assimilated. This may be a good argument in theory; but here facts and experience are opposed to interference.

The systems of the two Countries cannot be proved to be incompatible with each other. The Scottish system has not been attended with the evils of the English system; and as the Country desires no change, legislation is therefore both uncalled for and improper.

5th. That to show the danger of interest of such National magnitude, interwoven as it is with the whole system of National industry, it is only necessary to mention that the Cash Credits given by the Banks, on a plan peculiar to Scotland, amount to £7,000,000; that the Banks have the administration of £45,000,000 of Money, consisting of £12,000,000 of paid up Capital, of £3,000,000 of Bank Notes, and of £30,000,000 of Money deposited by the Public, for which it receives Interest; that these £45,000,000 are lent out to the Commercial, Manufacturing, and Agricultural classes, thereby vivifying all the springs of human Industry, and promoting the National wealth.

6th. That if the contemplated Measure be to suppress the One Pound Notes, or to require the Banks to invest a portion of their Capital as a security for their Paper circulation, it will force the Banks to re-model their whole system. They must reduce the number of their Branches; they must withdraw a large portion of their Cash Accounts; they must seek compensation for the loss of their Circulation, by additional charges on their transactions with the Public; and the National interests will be made to suffer by the withdrawal of that portion of their Capital represented by the One Pound Notes from the industrial Capital of the Country; and all these effects will be produced without any countervailing advantages.

7th. That the Paper Currency of Scotland combines in an eminent degree security and cheapness; the former from the unlimited responsibility of a large and respectable Proprietary, and an admirable Exchange system, whereby the Banks are obliged to pay at least weekly for the Notes that each may possess of the others; and the latter receives a remarkable confirmation from a comparison of the amount of circulation in Scotland with that of England. The circulation of Scotland, as per Gazette, 22nd

June, 1844, was £2,837,101. For England and Wales, as by Return, 25th May, 1844, Paper, £30,327,213; Gold in circulation, £23,672,757; together, Fifty-four Millions. The Population of England and Wales in 1841 was 15,906,829, and of Scotland 2,629,619.

Now, assuming that the Monetary system of Scotland was assimilated to that of England, and that the requirements of each Country were in the ratio of the population, it would require a Circulating Medium of about £9,000,000 to transact the business that is now most satisfactorily done with £2,837,101 of Paper and a small amount in Gold; and as the former must consist of about one-half in Gold, the loss to the Nation would be incalculable, and the innovation on the habits and prejudices of the People would be so great that the threatened interference with the existing Monetary system of Scotland would not be less regarded as a National calamity than it would be viewed as a most unnecessary and uncalled for act of legislation.

8th. That so long as the Paper Currency of Scotland is convertible into Gold on demand, and no change in this respect is required, and so long as she can offer the experience of a Century and a half of possessing a safe, sound, and cheap circulating Medium, the Merchants House would humbly deprecate any legislative interference with the existing Monetary system of Scotland. That a Memorial, founded on these Resolutions, be forwarded by the Dean of Guild to the Right Honourable Sir Robert Peel, Bart., and Petitions be also at the proper time presented to both Houses of Parliament.

31st January, 1845.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to consider the subject of Railway communication with England, Mr. Hugh Cogan moved the following Resolution:—

“That this Meeting express their high satisfaction at the prospect which is now presented of the formation of a direct Railway communication between England and the City of Glasgow, by means of the Caledonian line,—being the shortest and most desirable line, as well as the line approved of by the House in 1842; and in accordance with the Resolutions of the House then made, do now agree to petition both Houses of Parliament in favour of the Bill which is about to be introduced by the Promoters of that undertaking, and further to present a Memorial to the Board of Trade to the same effect.”

Which having been seconded, Mr. Archibald Newall moved as an amendment that the House adopt the following Resolution—

“That it is the opinion of this House that the more Railways which have their termini at Glasgow, the better for the Community; and that the House present a Memorial to the Board of Trade, praying the Board to investigate the different schemes,

and choose the best line or lines; and in the event of one line only being adopted, that it be the Western line by Dumfries and Carlisle."

The amendment having been likewise seconded, and the Motion and amendment having been put to the vote, nineteen voted for the Motion and twelve for the amendment.

The House having resumed consideration of the amended Rules and Regulations of the Town's Hospital, agreed to on the 5th June, 1844, approved thereof, and authorized an Extract to be issued accordingly.

The House unanimously agreed to Memorialize the Board of Trade, and Petition both Houses of Parliament in favour of the Scottish Central Railway from Perth by Stirling, to join the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

31st March, 1845.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to take into consideration the Bill lately introduced into the House of Commons by Sir James Graham, entitled, "A Bill for regulating the Profession of Physic and Surgery,"

The Dean of Guild laid before the House a copy of the Bill above-mentioned, and stated that having had an opportunity of giving some attention to the subject, he was satisfied that the Bill should be opposed, as it contained clauses which would prove injurious to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and to the interests of the City generally. The House concurred in this view, and appointed the Dean of Guild and Mr. Cogan as a Committee to prepare and transmit a Memorial to the Home Secretary and a Petition to the House of Commons against the Bill.

13th June, 1845.

At a Special Meeting of the Merchants House, called to consider the Glasgow Junction Railway Bill,

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It was resolved by a majority to Petition against the Bill.

The Petition to the House of Commons set forth,—

That a Bill has been introduced into your Honourable House, under the title of the "Glasgow Junction Railway Bill," which, if passed into a Law, will, in the opinion of your Petitioners, prove exceedingly injurious to various classes of the inhabitants of Glasgow, by a great majority of whom the operations described in the said Bill are viewed with dissatisfaction and alarm.

That these operations cannot be productive of any advantage to the Community at large, but will, on the contrary, destroy the beauty and amenity of some of the most important streets in the City, endanger the lives of the Citizens in its most crowded thoroughfares, particularly on the Glasgow Bridge, and by the constant flowing of sparks from the Engines, greatly endanger the crowded Shipping in the Harbour, and deteriorate in a material degree the Revenues of the Clyde Trust, by interrupting the traffic on the River, carrying to other and distant Ports goods which would otherwise be shipped or transhipped at the Broomielaw, and deprive the Citizens of the ready access to Passenger Steamboats which they at present enjoy,

And therefore pray that the said Bill may not be allowed to pass into a Law.

9th September, 1845.

The Dean of Guild laid before the House a Plan of the proposed Street from the Cross to the foot of Stockwell, passing through King Street, promoted by the Glasgow Eastern Improvement Company; and the Meeting having inspected the same, are of opinion that it would be a great public accommodation, open up a portion of the Town that is densely populated, ill ventilated, and has always been the worst seat of epidemics; and would therefore strongly recommend the scheme to the support of the public.

6th October, 1845.

The House having considered an application from the Directors of the Asylum for the Houseless Poor, directed a respectful answer to be returned, declining to subscribe to their funds, it having been the practice of the House for some time to decline all similar applications.

The Dean of Guild read to the House a Letter, of date the 17th ult., from Mr. Gulland, Chairman of the Association of Non-Freemen of Edinburgh, containing the following query:—

“Have you, as an Incorporation, any objection to the following or a similar enactment to abolish exclusive Trading in Scotch Burghs?”—

“And be it enacted that, from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for any person to practise or deal in any lawful Trade or Merchandise, and to exercise and carry on any lawful Trade or Occupation for gain, sale, hire, or payment, or otherwise, within any Burgh in Scotland, and that without entering Burgess or Guild Brother, or becoming a Member of any Corporation or Craft; any Law, Statute, Charter, Seal of Cause, notwithstanding.”

And the House having considered the said query and proposed enactment, resolved to record their opinion as opposed to any alteration of the existing Regulations regarding the admission of Burgesses, and that the same be intimated to Mr. Gulland.

7th October, 1845.

There was read to the House a Minute of the Directors, of date the 6th inst., recommending a proposal for a Daily Meeting of Merchants on 'Change; and the House having taken the same into consideration, unanimously adopted the following Resolution, proposed by the Dean of Guild:—

The Meeting having taken into consideration the advantages which the Mercantile Community of Glasgow would derive from having a Public 'Change, as in other large Commercial Towns, to which Merchants could resort at a stated hour, and which would be regarded as a place of meeting for the transaction of business, do unanimously approve of the proposed measure, and request the Directors of the House to co-operate with the other Public Bodies in carrying it into effect, the Meeting hereby pledging itself that each Member will give the proposed Daily Meeting his countenance and support when established.

9th December, 1845.

The Dean of Guild laid before the House the following draft Resolution, proposed to be adopted by the Dean of Guild Court:—

The Dean of Guild and his Brethren of Council having taken into consideration the late declaration of the Town Council, of their assent to an application being made to Parliament for the abolition of the Entry-Money of Burgesses, as well as of the exclusive privileges of the fourteen Incorporated Trades,

Resolve in the meantime to postpone for a year the enforcement of the Laws against persons who have commenced or carried on business in Glasgow from and after the 1st January, 1845, without entering Burgesses, that the result of the proposed application for a change of the Law may be ascertained. But, in respect that it would be unfair and contrary to justice that those persons who may have hitherto for a series of years usurped the rights of Burgesses and disobeyed the existing Law, should reap an undue advantage at the expense of those persons who have entered Burgesses, either voluntary or when judicially required, resolve to enforce the existing Law against such persons as may have hitherto usurped the rights of Burgesses, prior to the year 1845, and reaped profit from so carrying on business in Glasgow, when the Court shall be called on to do so at the instance of the parties interested in such enforcement, until otherwise directed by a competent higher tribunal.

And the House having taken the said Resolution into consideration, resolved, until further information shall be obtained, to give no deliverance thereupon; but desired it to be minuted as the present opinion of the House, that if the Burgesses Fines shall be abolished and a Tax imposed in lieu thereof, the Merchants House ought to participate in the proceeds of the Tax, along with the other parties interested.

On the suggestion of the Dean of Guild, the House unanimously resolved to present a Memorial to Her Majesty's Government representing the inadequacy of the Post Office Establishment in Glasgow to the increased wants of the City, and praying that better premises may be provided, and such additional Officers as are essentially necessary for the proper accommodation of the Public.

25th February, 1846.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the Lord Advocate's Bill, now before Parliament, entitled, "A Bill for the abolition of the exclusive privilege of Trading in Burghs in Scotland."

The Meeting were of opinion that the pecuniary interests of the Merchants House will be materially injured by the proposed Bill, which amounts to a total abolition of the privileges hitherto enjoyed by Corporations, and in the course of years must result in the complete extinction of a Civic distinction of ancient standing, intimately interwoven with the Public and Charitable Establishments of this City, and affording a qualification for the reception of Charitable Bequests vested in this House and other Public Bodies.

The House were also of opinion that a reduction of the Fees at present paid by persons entering as Burgesses, to the extent of one-half, might be expedient, and that such reduction, coupled with the abolition of the Stamp duty paid to Government, would be a more desirable Measure than that embodied in the Bill of the Lord Advocate. The House therefore resolved to present a Memorial to his Lordship, embodying these views, and appointed the Lord Dean of Guild, Sir James Campbell, and Hugh Cogan, Esq., as a Committee to prepare the same and transmit it to the Lord Advocate.

13th March, 1846.

The House, on the Motion of the Dean of Guild, adopted the following Petition to the House of Commons:—

That a Bill has been introduced into your Honourable House, entitled, the “Clyde Dock and Harbour Bill,” for constructing a Wet Dock at the Port of Glasgow, and for enlarging the Harbour. That the Wet Dock and additional Harbour accommodation proposed to be provided by the said Bill are urgently required for the extensive and rapidly increasing Trade of the Port; and the Petitioners trust that the Works specified in the Bill may receive the early sanction of your Honourable House.

That the proposal to take power to relinquish the comparatively small Wet Dock, at one time intended to be constructed on the south side of the River, and to construct in lieu thereof the more commodious and extensive Wet Dock or Basin proposed to be formed on the Lands of Stobcross, on the north side, appears to your Petitioners to be highly expedient.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to pass the said Bill into a Law, and thus in an important degree promote the best interests of the Trade and Commerce of the Country.

16th March, 1846.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House called to consider the Bill now before Parliament, entitled, "A Bill to regulate Joint Stock Banks in Scotland and Ireland,"

The Dean of Guild stated that he had been requested by influential parties connected with the Banking interest to bring under the notice of the House the provisions of the above Bill, which were regarded as injurious to the Joint Stock Banks of Scotland, and to the Mercantile interest generally. The House concurred in this opinion, and resolved to present Petitions to both Houses of Parliament against the Bill, and appointed the following Gentlemen as a Committee to prepare the same, and to transmit them for presentation—viz., The Dean of Guild, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Cogan, and Mr. Bogle.

The Petition to the Commons set forth, —

That your Petitioners, as representing a very large portion of the Mercantile and Manufacturing Community of Glasgow, have had under their consideration a Bill lately introduced into your Honourable House, entitled, "A Bill to regulate Joint Stock Banks in Scotland and Ireland," by which it is proposed to extend to Scotland the provisions of an Act passed in the Eighth year of Her present Majesty, entitled, "An Act to regulate Joint Stock Banks in England;" that the provisions of the said Act appear to your Petitioners to be inapplicable to the existing state of the Banking system in Scotland, and at variance with the principle of equal and impartial legislation. And although the proposed measure is meant to be prospective, and leaves to the existing Unchartered Banks the option of taking the proffered Charter, its conditions are such that the existing Banking Companies will rather prefer remaining as they are, than be placed in a position by which positive injury to themselves and to the Public will be sustained, and by which they would become parties to a Legislative recognition of the privileges of the five Chartered Banks, of which privileges the Unchartered Banks have long complained, as exclusive and uncalled for by a regard to the Public interest.

That at present the security afforded to the Public by the Unchartered Banks is superior to that which the Law permits the Chartered Banks to offer, because the security in the one case extends to the whole Real and Personal Property of the Partners, and in the other it is limited by Charter to the amount of Bank stock which each Partner holds; and your Petitioners are unable to see how this affords any ground for depriving the Unchartered Banks of one of their greatest securities in dealing with their own Partners—namely, the lien over their Stock, which unaccountably the proposed Bill intends to preserve to the Chartered Banks. That your Petitioners would

humbly and most respectfully state their opinion, that the Unchartered Banking Companies of Scotland would be ready to acquiesce in any measure which the Legislature might think expedient, to improve the Monetary System of Scotland, provided it be based on a principle which will place all the Banks upon an equal footing; though, in the opinion of your Petitioners, the Scottish System of Banking has proved itself, after a trial of more than a Century, to afford such security to the Public and benefit to the Nation that it becomes doubtful whether farther legislation may not tend to injure rather than improve it.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to refuse your sanction to the Bill, entitled, "A Bill to regulate Joint Stock Banks in Scotland and Ireland." And your Petitioners will ever pray.

7th October, 1846.

Mr. Leadbetter brought under the notice of the House an application received by him from the friends of the late Mr. Alexander Rodger, for a Burial-place in the Necropolis, free of charge, in which the remains of the deceased are interred, with space for the erection of a Monument to his Memory; but the House, considering themselves barred by the practice of their predecessors from giving an absolute Gift of Ground on any occasion, and being at the same time desirous to show a mark of respect for the deceased as a Man of Genius connected with Glasgow, resolved, that the piece of Ground referred to, extending to about three square yards, shall be given at the nominal value of twenty shillings.

20th November, 1846.

The Dean of Guild informed the House that the Meeting had been called for the purpose, among other matters, of meeting a deputation from Liverpool, who had requested a Conference with the Merchants House on the subject of the Duty on Tea; and the Gentlemen composing said Deputation were introduced accordingly.

One of the Deputation having addressed the House, it was remitted to a Committee to prepare a Petition to Parliament on the subject, which they accordingly did in the following terms:—

That the Merchants House, representing the great body of the Merchants and Manufacturers of the City of Glasgow and its neighbourhood, are deeply interested in all measures which are calculated to extend the Commerce of the Country, especially such as, besides effecting that particular object, shall add to the comfort of the great body of the People.

That, entertaining these views, your Memorialists, in common with their Countrymen at large, were much gratified by the accomplishment of the recent Treaty with China, which has already opened up a most extensive Market for our Manufactures, and which, if followed out in a liberal spirit, on the part of Great Britain, cannot fail to produce the most important and beneficial results to both Countries.

That as Tea is a great, and by far the most important, article of import from China into this Country, and as the disposition of the Chinese to purchase, and their ability to pay for British Manufactures, are only limited by the extent to which we can take this article in return, it is most evident that every practicable effort should be made to increase the consumption of so wholesome a Beverage in this Country. Instead, therefore, of continuing to levy, in the altered relations of the two Countries, the present exorbitant Duty on Tea, which amounts to from 200 to 300 per Cent. on its cost, a very large reduction of duty, in the opinion of your Memorialists should now be made. Indeed, this would only be meeting, in a spirit of reciprocity and good feeling, that important reduction in the Chinese Tariff so favourable to us, under which they now admit British Manufactures at an average duty of about five per Cent.

Your Memorialists are aware that some alarm might be created as to the Revenue, if the duty on Tea was reduced to One Shilling per pound; and in order that the effects of the measure shall really be participated in by the great body of the People, they humbly conceive that a concession to this extent ought to be made. Still, they feel persuaded, that, judging from the success which has attended recent reductions of duty on articles of large consumption, and being confident that there is no other article of commerce on which a reduction of duty would so certainly be followed by an immense increase of consumption as Tea; and further, taking into view that, simultaneously with such an increased consumption of Tea, the Revenue arising from the inevitable increase in the consumption of Sugar consequent thereon would be very great, your Memorialists fondly anticipate, and indeed believe, that any diminution of Revenue which might arise from reduced duties would be very temporary, and that ere long the Revenue from these two important articles combined would not only equal, but at no distant time exceed the highest amount which they have yet attained.

Apart, however, from these considerations of a purely Commercial and Fiscal character, your Lordships need not be reminded of the great Moral benefit which the adoption of this measure would confer on all classes, even the poorest of the People, enabling them to obtain an article of such general and increasing consumption at a moderate rate, enlarging the means of their social enjoyment, and elevating and improving their condition, by lessening their habits of vice and intemperance,—results

like these may well justify the making of such an experiment, even although for a time they were attended with a partial diminution of Revenue.

May it therefore please your Lordships to take this important subject into your favourable consideration, and recommend such a reduction of duty on Tea as shall ensure a greatly increased rate of consumption in this Country, increasing thereby the comforts of the People, and promoting, and that largely, the extension of our Exports to the Empire of China.

13th January, 1847.

The Dean of Guild stated to the House that the Meeting had been convened for the purpose of giving the House an opportunity of considering the expediency of adopting measures to obtain a repeal of the laws which prohibit or fetter the use of Sugar and Molasses in Breweries and Distilleries.

Several Members addressed the House in favour of the repeal of the laws referred to, as the most obvious and speedy means of meeting the destitution which at present prevails in the Country, from the scarcity and high price of provisions; and the House unanimously agreed to memorialize the Lords of the Treasury, and the Memorial underwritten was unanimously approved of, and ordered to be transmitted to Lord John Russell forthwith.

That the calamitous condition of multitudes of the people of this Country at the present time, arising from the scarcity and high price of Provisions, has forced upon the attention of your Memorialists the consideration of the means by which their sufferings may be speedily mitigated or removed.

And after mature deliberation, your Memorialists are humbly of opinion that there is no measure so likely to increase the quantity of Grain available for the food of the people as the repeal of the laws which prohibit the use of Sugar and Molasses in public Breweries; and if this measure were accompanied by the repeal of the Excise Regulations which fetter the use of Sugar and Molasses in Distilleries, the opinion of your Memorialists is, that these measures would tend to prevent a farther rapid rise in the price of Grain, and place the means of subsistence within the reach of many who would otherwise be unable to purchase the necessaries of life.

In recommending these measures as the most obvious means of meeting the present emergency, your Memorialists have the satisfaction of knowing that they also promote the ends of justice and the interests of the producers of Sugar, who have hitherto been

excluded from participation in the benefit of those principles of Free Trade by which the Commerce of the Country is now regulated, and in accordance with which your Memorialists cannot doubt that the measures now recommended will at no distant day be permanently adopted.

May it therefore please your Lordships to take this Memorial into favourable consideration, and to recommend such Legislative measures as may seem necessary to the free use of Sugar and Molasses in public Breweries and Distilleries.

10th February, 1847.

The Dean of Guild informed the House that he had convened the present Meeting chiefly at the request of Mr. Smith of Deanston, who was desirous of submitting to the House certain Plans for crossing the Clyde and forming a General Terminus for Railways in Glasgow.

Mr. Drysdale was of opinion that as the House had not heard the Projectors of other plans having the same objects in view, the first question ought to be, How far it might be expedient to allow Mr. Smith to be heard; but the feeling of the Meeting being in favour of his being heard, Mr. Smith was introduced, and proceeded to explain to the House a plan for crossing the Clyde above Hutcheson's Bridge by a viaduct capable of accommodating the Ayrshire, the Caledonian, and the Greenock Railways. Connected with the scheme was a proposal to form a General Terminus at Blythwood Holm, with a station at the Cross, each Railway to be separate, but all in juxtaposition. Mr. Smith explained the advantages of his scheme at considerable length, and promised to furnish, for the use of the Members, copies of his plans and an explanatory narrative in a few days. The House having considered the matter, resolved to delay any deliverance on it for the present, particularly as the decision of the Royal Commissioners, appointed to inspect the various plans and fix on the best, is daily expected.

9th March, 1847.

The House having heard and considered the Minute of the Cemetery Committee, of date the 19th ultimo, recommending a Contribution of £500, Sterling, towards the expense of improving the Approach to the Necropolis, by opening up Stirling's Road, unanimously approved and confirmed the same, on the terms and conditions narrated in said Minute.

3rd May, 1847.

The Chairman read to the House a Letter addressed to the Dean of Guild by Mr. David Murray, Secretary to the Association for procuring the abridgment, simplification, and economization of the Title Deeds of Heritable Subjects in Scotland, inclosing a Report by the Directors, and recommending that the House, if it seemed proper, should petition the House of Commons in favour of the five following Bills lately introduced by the Lord Advocate :—

1st. A Bill to simplify the form and diminish the expense of the Constitution and Transmission of Heritable Securities for Debt in Scotland.

2nd. A Bill to facilitate the Transference of Lands and other Heritages in Scotland not held by Burgage tenure, and completing the Titles thereto.

3rd. A Bill to facilitate the Transference of Lands and other Heritages in Scotland held in Burgage tenure.

4th. A Bill to amend the Law and practice of Scotland as to the Service of Heirs.

5th. A Bill to amend the Law and practice of Scotland as to Crown Charters.

And the House having considered the said communication, approved of said Bills, and agreed to petition in favour of them.

The Chairman stated that the chief object of the present Meeting was to consider the present alarming state of the Country in connection with the pressure on the Money Market, and whether the distress might not be traced to the operation of the Bank Act of 1844.

The House unanimously appointed the following Committee to prepare a Memorial to the Treasury on the subject:—viz., the Dean,

Mr. Cogan, Mr. Stirling, and Mr. Connal,—which they accordingly did in the following terms :—

That your Memorialists, as representing a large portion of the Mercantile and Manufacturing Community of Glasgow, are desirous to state to your Lordships that the difficulties and distress, at present prevailing to so great an extent among the Mercantile and Manufacturing Classes of the United Kingdom, are also experienced very severely by the Merchants and Manufacturers of this district. The derangement of Monetary Affairs, and the great advance in the Rate of Interest, have already been attended with ruinous effects; and your Memorialists are apprehensive that unless a remedy be speedily found for these evils, the whole Trade, Commerce, and Industry of the Country must suffer injury to an extent unprecedented in the Commercial history of the United Kingdom. Your Memorialists believe that a combination of causes—one of them at least beyond human control—have mainly contributed to produce the deplorable state of depression now existing in the Country. They are anxious at the same time to represent to your Lordships that among Commercial men here the opinion to a considerable extent prevails, that the working of the Bank Act of 1844 is one of the chief causes to which the present evils may be traced; and they respectfully suggest to your Lordships whether, in the present very peculiar circumstances of the Country, under a drain of Gold for Foreign supplies of Food, which nothing but the almost total failure of the Potato Crop could have rendered necessary, some relaxation of that measure may not be beneficially adopted, without prejudice eventually to the objects contemplated by it, and with great present advantage to the Commercial and Industrial interests of the Country.

Your Memorialists therefore humbly pray your Lordships to take this Memorial into your favourable consideration, and to order such investigations to be made as may be deemed proper, and such remedies to be applied as the urgency of the case seems to demand.

7th July, 1847.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, specially called to consider as to an application for an advance of the Salaries of the Sheriff-Substitutes of Glasgow,

It was resolved to Memorialize the Lords of the Treasury in favour of an increase of these Salaries.

3rd November, 1847.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called to consider the condition of the British Sugar-producing Colonies, William Stirling, Esq.,

stated to the House that the West India Colonies, in consequence of the measures adopted recently by successive Governments towards them, were at the present time reduced to a state of great distress, and many of the Proprietors had actually abandoned their Estates, and the Colonies would ultimately be totally abandoned if something were not done for improving their condition. He moved that a Memorial on the subject be presented to the Lords of the Treasury, and that the following Committee be appointed to draw the Memorial and forward it to the proper quarter:—viz., The Dean, Mr. Leadbetter, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Newall, and Mr. Colin Campbell, jun. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Leadbetter, and unanimously agreed to.

19th April, 1848.

Mr. Richardson moved that the House petition Parliament in favour of the existing Navigation Laws; which was seconded and unanimously agreed to. Thereafter it was resolved that the following Committee be appointed to draw up the Petition, and that it be based on the notes read to the House by Mr. Richardson, and that it be sent to Mr. Lockhart, the Member for the County, for presentation to the House of Commons:—viz., The Dean, Convener, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Stirling, and Mr. Connal.

The House then proceeded to consider the subject of Entails in Scotland, and unanimously agreed to petition Parliament in favour of the Lord Advocate's Entail Law Reform Bill, now before the House of Commons.

The Petition as to the Navigation Laws set forth,—

That your Petitioners understand Measures are immediately to be submitted to your Honourable House having for their object the Repeal of the Navigation Laws of this Country, which they unanimously regard with feelings of the utmost anxiety and alarm.

That your Petitioners are opposed to the repeal or material modification of the Navigation Laws, from the most decided conviction that the great power and prosperity to which this Country has attained are chiefly, if not entirely, attributable to the protec-

tion afforded to our Commerce and Colonies by the British Navy, the invincible power of which is in a great measure referable to the constant supply of experienced Seamen from the Mercantile Marine.

Your Petitioners are therefore of opinion that any measure so ruinous to the Mercantile Marine as the repeal or any relaxation of the Navigation Laws must necessarily be, and that without affording any adequate compensation to other interests, could not fail to be attended with the most injurious consequences to the general trade and safety of the Empire.

That your Petitioners are also of opinion that although at some future period it should be thought advisable to repeal or relax the Navigation Laws, they are convinced that any alteration whatever at the present time would prove ruinous not only to the Shipping interest, but to a vast number of industrious Tradesmen and Operatives dependent on Shipping, and would therefore add to the gloom and perplexity of the times.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to resist and finally reject the proposed repeal or any relaxation whatever in the Navigation Laws as they now stand. And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

13th June, 1848.

At a Quarterly Meeting, *inter alia*, the House proceeded to consider the propriety of petitioning both Houses of Parliament in regard to the West India Colonies, and unanimously agreed to do so.

The Petition to the House of Commons set forth,—

That it appears from the evidence taken before the select Committee of your Honourable House on Sugar and Coffee Planting, that great distress undoubtedly prevails amongst all who are connected with Sugar cultivation in our West India Colonies.

That from the evidence it also appears manifest that, unless immediate relief be granted, Cultivation will cease in these Colonies, to the grievous injury of this Country and total ruin of those once splendid adjuncts of the British Empire.

That these Colonies have been reduced to their present state in a great measure by the Acts of the British Legislature, particularly by the prevention of the importation of Free Labourers into the Colonies.

That this Country has expended a large amount of money, and made many sacrifices, and is still doing so, for the purpose of discouraging and ultimately extinguishing Slavery and the Slave Trade, the whole of which is useless so long as the Producers of Sugar by means of free labour are not enabled successfully to compete with Planters in States where slavery continues.

That your Petitioners consider it but fair and reasonable that a differential duty in

favour of Sugar, the produce of British Possessions, be levied, until such time as these Possessions are placed on a footing to compete with Foreign Countries.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to take the premises into consideration, and to pass such measures as will remedy the evils complained of. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

6th July, 1848.

The Dean of Guild stated that he had been requested by Bailie Stewart to bring under the notice of the House the general Subscription now going on for the Unemployed Operatives of Glasgow; and the House resolved to subscribe to the Fund for the relief of the Unemployed Operatives the sum of £200, Sterling.

21st February, 1849.

The House agreed to Memorialize the Lords of the Treasury on the Postal arrangements between London and Liverpool and Glasgow.

2nd March, 1849.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called to consider the Bill now in Parliament as to the Navigation Laws, the House having agreed to petition against the Bill, a Committee was appointed to prepare the same. The Petition was to the following effect :—

That this House regards with deep anxiety and alarm the Measure introduced into Parliament by the President of the Board of Trade for the amendment of the Navigation Laws.

That this House considers these Laws to be of vital importance to the well-being of the United Kingdom and her vast dependencies, and that their repeal would seriously affect our National defence and safety. That our present Navigation Act practically throws on our Mercantile Commerce during Peace, without expense to the Country, the charge of maintaining an efficient Naval Militia for the Public service in time of War, and but for this Nursery the cost to the Country in maintaining during Peace a Naval force sufficient for the employment and training of an adequate number of able Seamen to man the Navy would be enormous.

That this House is of opinion that it would be an act of great injustice to compel British Ship Owners, burdened as they are by many restrictions, to compete with the Ship Owners of other Nations, who are comparatively free from such restrictions.

That the repeal of the Navigation Laws would largely affect the Capital now employed in Shipping and Shipbuilding, and all the branches of Trade connected therewith, and tend to force that Capital to other Countries, to be there expended. That it would bring to ruin a large portion of all classes of our Population, and it is in the highest degree inexpedient to trifle at present with the labour of the Country. That it is not in the power of any Nation, even if disposed, to give us an equivalent in Navigation for the advantages which we should surrender by the repeal of our Navigation Laws; and no Nation has reciprocated the liberal spirit manifested in our recent legislation, and some have actually met our advances by increased restrictions on British Shipping and Navigation.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to resist and finally reject the Government Measure for alteration of the Navigation Laws, and in any of these Laws which may be deemed essential to the common interests of British Subjects to preserve inviolable the first principles on which they are founded.

23rd April, 1849.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called to consider the Lunacy Bill for Scotland,

The House agreed to petition against the Bill.

8th August, 1849.

At a Meeting called to address the Queen, the House unanimously resolved to present an Address to the Queen, and appointed the Dean of Guild, Mr. James Bogle, and Mr. William Brown, jun., to prepare and present the same. The Address was to the following effect:—

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects, "The Merchants House of Glasgow," impressed with sentiments of profound respect, gladly embrace the opportunity your Majesty has graciously afforded us of offering our most respectful and cordial congratulations on your Majesty's arrival in your Ancient City of Glasgow.

In recognizing in the August person of your Majesty the lineal descendant of illustrious Princes who swayed the Scottish sceptre for a series of ages, we unite with all classes of our fellow-subjects in giving expression to those enthusiastic feelings of patriotism and attachment with which we bid you welcome.

Bearing in grateful remembrance the many blessings which the Inhabitants of this Country have enjoyed under the mild and equitable sway of the Sovereigns of your

Illustrious House, and under which the happy Constitution of our Country has been upheld, and the prosperity of the Nation advanced, we beg, on this joyful occasion, with feelings of pride and exultation, to assure your Majesty of our unaltered respect and regard for your Royal person, your Majesty's Royal Consort, and August Family, and humbly pray that your Majesty may be long preserved the beloved and honoured Sovereign of a free, a loyal, and a happy people.

And on the Motion of the Dean of Guild, in order to commemorate the Queen's visit, and as a Memorial of the loyalty and attachment to the Sovereign, for which the House has been distinguished for many generations, it was unanimously resolved that each Pensioner upon the Roll should be paid one half more than his usual allowance at the next quarterly payment, which takes place next week, during the Queen's visit.

11th October, 1849.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, called to discuss the Post Office question, the House agreed to Memorialize the Postmaster General to the following effect:—

That your Memorialists have observed with much regret the anticipated change in the General Post Office, London, in reference to the transmission of Mails on Sunday, whereby an increased number of hands must unavoidably be employed there on that day,—which, although it might be an advantage to the Provinces, yet as, in the opinion of your Memorialists, its immediate effect must be to increase the amount of Sunday labour in London, as well as in many of the leading Commercial Towns throughout the Country, thus employing many individuals in Secular duties that might be disposed to spend their time in connection with Religious duties on that day,—therefore your Memorialists disapprove of the proposed change, as they think its decided tendency would be to relax the Religious and Moral feeling of the people.

May it therefore please your Lordship to use your influence in preventing the proposed change.

25th April, 1850.

On the Motion of Mr. Graham Russell, the following Petition to the House of Commons was adopted by a majority, viz.:—

That your Petitioners observe with regret the continued depression in the Agricultural condition of the West India Colonies, as shown by the great falling off

in their Exports since the emancipation of their Slaves. That as the soil and climate of these Possessions render them capable of raising all Tropical Products, to equal if not greater advantage than any other Country, this decline in their prosperity must be attributed to other causes.

That your Petitioners ascribe it mainly to a deficiency in the supply of Labourers, owing to a want of proper laws at the time of Emancipation for the prevention of squatting, and the restrictions imposed on the Importation of suitable Labourers since that period.

That it is both unjust, and against the Commercial principles of this Country, on the one hand, to admit Sugar the produce of Slave-holding and Slave-trading Countries, whilst, on the other hand, the West India Colonies are prevented obtaining that supply of Free labour which is essential to enable them to compete successfully with these Countries. That your Petitioners, regarding with abhorrence the continuation of the Slave trade, and feeling that its duration in other Countries greatly depends on the satisfactory issue of their emancipation in the British Colonies, earnestly pray your Honourable House to take such measures as will secure these possessions an ample supply of Free Labourers at a moderate rate; and also to amend the Act 1848, 11th and 12th Vict., Cap. 97, so far as to arrest the further diminution of the Duties on Foreign Sugar, which, if further reduced on Foreign Clayed Sugars, will then be a Bounty on the Sugar of Slave Countries.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

The Dean of Guild then made the following gratifying announcement to the House:—That the Misses Speirs of Polmont Park had, through their nephew, Captain Speirs of Culcreuch, intimated to him that their mother, the late Mrs. Mary Buchanan or Speirs of Polmont Park, relict of Alexander Speirs, Esq. of Elderslie, Merchant in Glasgow, having expressed a desire that the sum of One Thousand Pounds of her means should, at the Death or Marriage of the last of her unmarried Daughters, be given to the Merchants House, to be in their hands till it accumulated to Two Thousand Pounds, and thereupon invested for behoof of certain decayed Members of the Merchants House, or their widows or orphans; they, the Misses Speirs, in anticipation of the contemplated accumulations, expressed their readiness now to pay the full amount which their Mother had desired; and the following was submitted by Captain Speirs as the terms upon which the money would be paid, and according to which the Dean of Guild and Directors of the House are to administer the same, namely:—

1st. Misses Speirs, in pursuance of their Mother's wishes, will pay to the Treasurer of the Merchants House in Glasgow the sum of Two Thousand Pounds, Sterling, at the term of Whitsunday next, 1850.

2nd. This sum is given to be vested in Real or Undoubted Security, and the Interest to be divided annually, among four decayed Members of the Merchants House, or widows or orphans of such Members. The Annuity to be for four years, but may be continued if judged expedient. Persons of the name of Speirs or Buchanan to have a preference.

3rd. The Proprietors of Elderslie, Culcreuch, and Polmont Park, being descendants of Alexander Speirs, Esq. of Elderslie and Culcreuch, and Mrs. Mary Buchanan, his wife, to have a right to nominate parties to enjoy said annuities; but should they not choose, or fail to exercise this right, then the Dean of Guild and Directors for the time being shall enjoy and exercise the right of presenting.

This Gift is in perpetual Remembrance of the above-named Alexander Speirs, Esq. of Elderslie, formerly Merchant in Glasgow, and the principal sum is never to be broken on.

The Meeting accordingly request the Dean of Guild to express to these Ladies, through Captain Speirs, or otherwise, the willingness of the Directors to accept of the Donation for their administration upon the terms stated, and also to convey their warmest thanks to the Misses Speirs for their so handsomely anticipating the wishes of their Parent, by advancing the full sum now, instead of its being paid many years hence.

The Dean is also desired respectfully to convey the wish of the Directors to be allowed to obtain a Copy of the Portrait of the amiable originator of the Fund, or one or more of her Family, to be preserved by the Merchants House as a token of respect and admiration.

11th June, 1850.

Inter alia, a Letter dated 10th June, containing Mr. Reddie's opinion as to the Rights of the Dean of Guild as a Magistrate, was read and ordered to be inserted in the Minute Book of the House, viz.:—

10th June, 1850.

Dear Sir,—I had on Saturday your Note, inclosing a Letter from the Dean of Guild of Aberdeen to the Dean of Guild of Glasgow, which I now return; and I can have no hesitation in giving it as my opinion, that the Dean of Guild of a Royal Burgh is as

much a Magistrate as the Lord Provost or Bailies. The latter judge in Questions of Debt, Reparation of Damage, and Minor offences, or Police delinquency. The former in Possessory Questions, respecting Immovable Property or Heritable Subjects within Burgh, Removal of Nuisances, &c.

The Dean of Guild is a Magistrate of a Burgh, but his Jurisdiction is distinct and not subordinate to the Bailie Court, "Adamson against Masterton, 21st July, 1631, Neilson against Donald, 22nd February, 1750, and Proprietors in Carrubber's Close against Reoch, 26th February, 1762." In Questions of Neighbourhood within a Royal Burgh, the Dean of Guild enjoys a Jurisdiction exclusive of the Sheriff, "Magistrates of Stirling against the Sheriff-Depute of Stirlingshire, November, 1752."

The Dean of Guild used formerly to be called to all Meetings of the Magistrates; why he has not been called of late, as you mention, I do not understand. I consider him entitled to be called to Meetings of the Magistrates as well as the Bailies.

If the omission has arisen from the mistake of the Council Officer, it should be corrected. If there be any reasons for not calling the Dean of Guild to such Meetings, they should be stated.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) Jas. Reddie.

Mr. Macfarlane.

Note.—You may show the Dean of Guild the Form of Process of his Court, made out and printed in 1806.

27th June, 1850.

A Petition to the House of Commons was adopted in favour of a Bill for changing the present mode of charging the Duty on home-made Spirits.

A Letter, from Mr. James Howie, Writer, was laid before the House on the subject of Motherwell's Tomb, with a sketch by Mr. Fillans, and requesting that the small angular piece of Ground surrounding the Tomb should be given to the Committee for erecting the Monument to the late Poet, gratis, which the House unanimously agreed to, under the inspection of the Cemetery Committee.

It was agreed that the Painting of the Names of the Deans of Guild on the Old Board should be executed as intended on one of the Panels of the Hall, and that the same should be gilded.

1st November, 1850.

The Dean of Guild laid upon the table the following Report of the Committee appointed to report as to the appointment of a Collector and Clerk, viz.:—

The Committee beg to state that having met for the examination of applications for the above appointment, and as said Committee included the Members of the Committee lately appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the House, they were of opinion that, before the appointment of a Collector and Clerk, it would be of advantage that the Committee last referred to should exhaust the powers committed to them, embracing also a vidimus of the Constitution as well as of the Rules and Regulations of the House, and also of the Mortifications and Gifts connected therewith.

In making this suggestion the Committee have been in some measure influenced by repeated instances having lately occurred, where the rights and privileges of the House have been invaded, and its Regulations overlooked. The importance, therefore, of publishing a vidimus will doubtless be sufficiently apparent to the Directors, and satisfactory to the Members of the House. As this, however, will be attended with very considerable labour, and it being of essential service to secure the efficient aid of one who is conversant not only with the Constitution but also the Forms and Regulations of the House, it has occurred to the Committee that, from the long experience of Mr. Newall, and his intimate knowledge of these matters, it would be advisable for a time to secure his services exclusively, or as far as possible, to accomplish the object in view. For this purpose, therefore, the Committee take leave to suggest that the aid of Mr. Newall be secured for such time as may be required, and that the appointment of a Clerk and Collector be postponed until the Committee be in a condition to publish a report upon the Constitution and Regulations of the House, as lately resolved upon. In accordance with which, the Committee further suggest that they, or others to be named, be continued as a Committee to carry out the objects above indicated, and to report to the House, *quam primam*.

Which Report having been read and unanimously approved of, the Meeting resolved that Mr. Newall's services be required forthwith, for a period of six months, or such longer period as the Committee may think requisite, in the capacity of interim Collector and Clerk.

27th March, 1851.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, to take into consideration a communication from the Lord Provost and Bridge Trustees, requesting the honour of the Merchants House joining in the Public Procession on

the 9th April to lay the Foundation Stone of the Victoria Bridge, it was unanimously agreed that the House should take a part in the Public Procession.

25th April, 1851.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning the House of Commons to rescind the Order in Council of 28th August, 1840, which sanctions the admixture of Chicory with Coffee, it was moved by the Dean of Guild, that this House petition the House of Commons to rescind the Order in Council of 1840, and deliver the Petition to Alexander Hastie, Esq., M.P. for the City, and respectfully request him to present it to the House, and to give it his support; which was unanimously agreed to.

17th July, 1851.

At a Committee Meeting of the Merchants House on Postal Arrangements, it was unanimously agreed that a Memorial be transmitted to the Postmaster General, which Memorial, inter alia, sets forth,—

That it would be of the utmost importance to the Merchants and Manufacturers of Glasgow, as well as of London, to have the Evening Mails despatched from both places by an accelerated Train, at such an hour as would admit the Correspondence to be delivered in both Cities early in the following morning, and thereby enable the Merchants to transact the business of the day, and report the same in the afternoon.

13th November, 1851.

At a Meeting of the Merchants House on Customs Reform it was unanimously agreed that this House co-operate with the Committee in London to obtain a Reform of the Board of Customs, and in the meantime to Memorialize the Lords of the Treasury on the subject; and appoint the Dean of Guild, Messrs. John M'Ewan, Andrew Galbraith,

Thomas Richardson, and William Brown, jun., a Committee to draw up the Memorial, which sets forth,—

That this House hailed with great satisfaction, during last Session of Parliament, a Memorial from the Merchants of London to the Honourable the House of Commons, soliciting a scrutiny into the Rules and Administration of the Customs, which was met by the appointment of a Select Committee of that Honourable House.

That this Committee has so far prosecuted its labours, but, as much still remains to be done, your Memorialists are desirous that the Committee should be strengthened in forwarding their labours till they shall be brought to a satisfactory termination.

That your Memorialists have already suffered, and still suffer much, from the complexity of the present system and regulations, and the tediousness under which they are conducted, which but ill accord with the increased celerity under which other branches of public and private departments are now managed.

May it therefore please your Lordships to afford to your Memorialists such relief as the case may be found to require, and your Memorialists will ever pray.

16th December, 1851.

The Lord Dean of Guild read to the Meeting an extract from a Letter addressed to him by John Kingan, Esq., formerly a Merchant of Glasgow, now resident at Cheltenham, and who had been long a member of this House, in which, with kindly expressions of an earnest desire to promote the interests of the Merchants House, Mr. Kingan says, “I will convey to the Directors of the Merchants House, for its general purposes, without conditions, five shares of the Forth and Clyde Canal, as soon as may be.”

The Lord Dean added that Mr. Kingan had very promptly executed a transfer of these shares, and that the Merchants House were now fully vested in the same.

The Directors requested the Lord Dean to convey to Mr. Kingan their sincere acknowledgments for the donation, which is at present most acceptable, in consequence of the many calls on the funds of the House by Widows and Children of Matriculated Members, and to transmit a copy of this Minute to Mr. Kingan.

14th September, 1852.

The Meeting then took into consideration the low rate of Interest that could now be obtained for Money to be lent out on good Securities, and the probability of a further reduction, from the great quantity of Bullion coming to the Country from Australia and other quarters. Whereupon the Meeting appointed the following Committee,—viz., Messrs. John M'Ewan, Hugh Cogan, James Hannan, with the Dean of Guild,—to look out for Heritable Property on which to invest part of the Funds of the House, whereby a better return could be obtained, than run the risk of any further reduction of the rate of interest on loans.

28th November, 1852.

The Lord Dean of Guild brought before the Meeting an Application to Government which, he was informed, had been made by the London, Liverpool, and North American Screw Steamship Company, to obtain a Charter of Limited Liability; and the Meeting having maturely considered and discussed the subject, it was moved and seconded that the House memorialize the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations against the granting a Charter of Limited Liability to the Shareholders of the London, Liverpool, and North American Screw Steamship Company, or any other Company, which was unanimously agreed to; and also, considering the importance of the matter to the Shipping Interest of this City, and Mercantile Interests generally, appointed a Deputation to wait upon the President of the Board of Trade to present the Memorial, and to use every argument and effort in their power to prevent said Company obtaining a Charter of Limited Liability of Shareholders.

The Lord Dean of Guild presented an Application from a Committee of the Town Council, to whom a remit has been made regarding the accommodation of the New Post Office to be erected in George Square, requesting the Directors to appoint a Deputation from their body to

meet said Committee, and Deputations from other Public Bodies, on the 1st December, at three o'clock, to consider the question how far the accommodation the New Post Office will afford, and if it is such as will adequately meet the wants of the public. The Meeting remitted the matter to the Post Office Committee.

3rd December, 1852.

At a Meeting of the Auldhouse Committee; the Committee recommend the Directors to instruct the Lord Dean of Guild to arrange to get from the Magistrates and Council their consent to apply the Auldhouse Mortification as to Apprentice Fees to an equal number of the Merchants Rank and Trades Rank respectively, to either of the Classes, Merchants or Trades Rank, as the necessities of the Applicants may seem most deserving, irrespective of the Clause in the Bequest restricting them to equal numbers.

26th January, 1853.

The Lord Dean of Guild laid before the Meeting the correspondence that had taken place relative to the Property in George Square, and an Extract of the Minutes of the Committee of Council, in conference with the Deputations from the Merchants House, Trades House, and Chamber of Commerce regarding the New Post Office; which having been read, and after mature deliberation, it was moved, and unanimously agreed to, that the Merchants House confirm the purchase made of the Properties in George Square, as narrated in the Minutes of the Deputations of the Public Bodies, dated 21st January, 1853, and that the Merchants House are to be the Purchasers thereof, agreeably to said Minutes. The Lord Dean of Guild stated that as the purchase of the Properties in George Square was now concluded upon, funds would be required to pay for the same.

Mr. Connal stated to the Meeting that the Magistrates and Council had prepared a Bill for the Improvement of the City, and that there were some of the Clauses in said Bill, as it stood, that would prove derogatory to the Merchants House, and particularly to the Dean of Guild

Court, and moved, seconded by James A. Anderson, that the Lord Dean of Guild, Messrs. William Connal, Andrew Galbraith, James Bogle, Hugh Cogan, John M'Ewan, and William Brown, jun., be appointed a Committee to watch over the proceedings of the Magistrates and Council with said Bill, and to use every possible exertion to oppose any attempt that may be made to infringe on the Rights and Privileges of the Merchants House, and also every attempt that may be made to abrogate the Privileges and Prerogatives of the Dean of Guild Court, and to call in to their aid legal assistance, if they deem it necessary.

18th February, 1853.

The Meeting unanimously agreed to petition Parliament against the City of Glasgow Improvement Bill; and also to employ an Agent in London to watch the movements and proceedings of the Magistrates and Council in Parliament with said Bill.

The Petition set forth,—

That by the said Bill it is proposed to make various important and highly objectionable alterations upon the Constitution and Powers of the Dean of Guild Court of the City of Glasgow.

That the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow has been established for several Centuries.

Dean of Guild Courts are recognized in the Scottish Act of James VI., 1593, Cap., 184, and the powers of the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow are confirmed by a special Statute, passed in the Reign of Charles II., on 11th September, 1672. At one period the Jurisdiction of this Court was of a very extensive nature, and although the powers of the Court are at present more limited, it still continues to exercise Jurisdiction in many matters of a highly important character.

In Erskine's Institutes of the Law of Scotland it is laid down that "It belongs to the Dean of Guild to take care that Buildings within Burgh be agreeable to Law, neither encroaching upon Private Property nor on Public Streets or Passages, and that Houses in danger of falling be thrown down. Though he be a Magistrate of a Royal Burgh, his Jurisdiction depends not in any measure on the Court of the Burgh, or, as it is commonly called, the Bailie Court."

That from time immemorial the Dean of Guild or President of the Merchants House of Glasgow has been the Judge of this Court, assisted by the Legal Adviser of the City, and by a Council of Assessors, chosen partly from the Merchants House and partly from the Trades House of Glasgow, called Lyners.

Although these Assessors are present at the hearing of all Causes in the Dean of Guild Court, and are accustomed to advise with the Dean of Guild on the matters brought before him, he is the sole Judge, and the Council have no right to vote.

That from time immemorial the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow have taken the charge and oversight of the erection of all the Buildings proposed to be erected in the City. By the Rules of that Court no Buildings can be commenced until an Application has been presented to the Court, in which the conterminous Proprietors are cited, and the Superintendent of Streets is also cited for the Public interest. Along with the Application, the Title Deeds of the Property, and a Plan of the proposed Buildings, are laid before the Court, Parties are heard, and Authority to erect the Buildings is granted or refused according to the merits of the case. Similar Applications require to be made when Authority is wished to alter or repair Houses already built.

The Court has also power, at the instance either of Public or Private parties, to order waste or ruinous Tenements to be propped, repaired, or to be taken down and rebuilt, to determine in all questions of servitudes within Burgh, to ascertain the reciprocal Rights and Interests of Parties in joint Property, and to interpose the Authority of the Court for the prevention and removal of Nuisances.

That the discharge of these Duties by the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow has given very general satisfaction to the Public.

That not only are the powers and procedure of Dean of Guild Courts in general, and of the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow in particular, sanctioned by the Statutes before referred to, and by the Common Law of the Land, but their powers are also recognized and approved of by the Municipal Reform Act for Scotland. By the same Statute it is provided that the Dean of Guild of Glasgow shall, in virtue of his election by the Merchants House, be a constituent Member of the Town Council of Glasgow, with all the powers and privileges belonging to his Office.

That by the Bill so introduced various alterations are proposed in the Constitution and powers of the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow, although, in the Parliamentary Notices of this Bill, no intimation was given of any intention to take powers to interfere with or alter the procedure of this Court, and although, in the preamble of the Bill, it is not stated to be expedient that any alteration should be made in the powers and functions of the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow.

That, in particular, it is proposed by the said Bill that the Members of the Court should each have a Vote, along with the Dean of Guild, when acting in the execution of the proposed Act.

It is also proposed that the formation and line of the Streets in the City of Glasgow shall be decided upon by the Police and Statute Labour Committee of the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow, thereby removing a matter of great importance from the Public Court of the Dean of Guild to the private decision of an irresponsible Committee. Various other Alterations are proposed, which, if allowed to pass into a Law, will have the effect of totally altering and subverting the powers and procedure of the Dean of Guild Court of Glasgow, which has existed for so many years, and with which the Public have been thoroughly satisfied.

That the Dean of Guild of Glasgow is elected by the Matriculated Members of your Petitioners' House; and any measure which is calculated to limit or abridge the powers and privileges of the Dean of Guild or his Court will be highly injurious to your Petitioners.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the said Bill may not pass into Law as it at present stands, &c.

25th May, 1853.

The Dean laid before the Meeting the Bill brought into the House of Commons by the Lord Advocate for the Amendment of the Law of Bankruptcy; which the Meeting having considered, are of opinion that it is objectionable in many particulars, especially as regards the proposal to vest the Estate in the Sheriff Clerk, in lieu of an Interim Factor. The Meeting accordingly appointed the Dean of Guild, and Messrs. James Lumsden, Hugh Cogan, William Dalglish, John M'Ewan, Alexander Abercrombie, and Peter Clouston, to prepare a Petition to both Houses of Parliament against the Bill as at present framed, and to suggest such improvements as may occur to said Committee.

Thereafter the Dean brought before the Meeting the subject of the Arrestment of Wages, which the Meeting having considered, are of opinion that the Law of Arrestment should be totally abolished, and authorize the Dean to subscribe a Petition to both Houses of Parliament to that effect.

The Petition to the House of Lords, as to the Arrestment of Wages, set forth,—

That your Memorialists are deeply interested in the welfare of the Working Classes; and they respectfully beg leave to bring before your Right Honourable House a grievance, resulting from the operation of the Law of Arrestment, under which these Classes are suffering.

That while these evils have been mitigated from time to time by legislative enactment, yet the existing law, which authorizes arrestment of periodical wages in the hands of employers, in security of debts, tends to lead the Operatives, both male and female, to rely upon credit, and consequently feel indifferent to the ruinous effects of contracting debts.

That besides the demoralizing results of the present system, the arbitrary power

invested in local judges exposes the Operative to the risk of being deprived of such proportion of his wages as may be necessary for his bare subsistence. That this Law is in operation in Scotland only, not in England or Ireland.

That a large amount of credit, on the faith of this Law, is at present existing, which depresses the debtor, but which must be duly protected and defrayed, and which is likely to go on increasing in amount and evil results; and therefore your Petitioners beg respectfully to suggest that the present system of Arrestment of Wages be entirely abolished.

May it therefore please your Right Honourable House to take the premises into your consideration, and thereafter pass a Bill declaring that the Wages of Artificers and Labourers in Scotland shall not hereafter be liable to arrestment for debt. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

13th September, 1853.

Inter alia. As usual at this period, the Directors take leave to submit to the Matriculated Members the Annual Statement of Accounts made up to this date.

From these it will be observed that the amount paid during the year is,—

For Pensions,	£1,514 11 8	
„ Precepts,	54 0 0	
„ Funeral Charges,	21 3 0	
		£1,589 14 8

Of this the proportion from the direct Funds

of the House is,	£1,418 13 0	
From Speirs' Gift,	80 0 0	
„ Mortifications,	91 1 8	
		1,589 14 8

The amount of Pensions lapsing at this time is as follows, viz :—

By Death,—	
On the Common Fund,	£138 0 0
By Lapse of Time and Resignation do.,	20 0 0
On Mortifications,	12 12 0
	£170 12 0

The Revenue derived from the Lands sold in the Necropolis is £541, 2s. 6d., which is an increase of £181, 15s. 6d. over last year's Sales.

On the re-appointment of the Committee to consider and look after good Investments in Heritable Property, in order to obtain a better return for the Capital of the House, instead of having it lent out at a reduced rate of Interest, they succeeded in concluding what they consider to be an advantageous purchase of Property on the south-east corner of George Square and South Frederick Street, at a cost of £11,400.

15th November, 1853.

The Meeting discussed the merits and demerits of Lord Brougham's Bankruptcy Bill, and unanimously agreed to oppose the Bill generally, because of the expense, length, and cumbrous machinery.

The Meeting thereafter authorized the Lord Dean to write to the Dean of Faculty, requesting that a Committee be appointed to confer and draw up a Statement of Objections to the above-mentioned Bill, also of such Amendments as would make the present Scotch Bankruptcy Bill more perfect, and according to the requirements of the day; also to Mr. Macewan, Accountant, requesting that he, with another Accountant, would unite in the Conference.

27th January, 1854.

Mr. John Smith was appointed Assistant and Successor to the Collector of the House.

Thereafter the Dean produced to the Meeting a copy of the Settlement of the late James Ewing, Esq. of Strathleven, by which Mr. Ewing bequeathes to the Merchants House, in the terms and for the purposes therein mentioned, the handsome sum, in all, of £31,000, Sterling.

(For the terms of the Bequests, see Abstract of Mortifications, in the Sequel.)

Whereupon the Meeting unanimously resolve to minute the following expression of the feeling of the House on the subject, viz.:—

The Directors cannot allow the occasion to pass with a mere formal recording of the munificent Bequests before referred to. Under any circumstances, liberality so great must have commanded their deepest gratitude; but they feel it to be enhanced by the recollection of the position which Mr. Ewing so long and honourably occupied as a Member of the House; a Merchant of Glasgow from his youth till his death, he never ceased to take the deepest interest in the Institutions of the City, especially in that which the Directors represent, in which he was repeatedly an honoured Office-bearer. His noble Testamentary Bequests

to the House, not to speak of others with which the Directors have no immediate concern, are substantial proofs that, while Providence blessed his life of industry, he had at the same time a heart to feel for, and a hand to help his dependent fellow-citizens. By means of his liberality the Directors will be enabled to comfort the hearts and cheer the homes of many who, through the vicissitudes incident to Commercial Life, have themselves become the objects of that kindness which they or their friends in times of prosperity have shewn to others, and, at the same time, provide for many the means of education, on which their ultimate success in life so much depends. The Directors further unanimously resolve that the foregoing inadequate expression of their respect for the deceased, and gratitude for his unexampled benevolence, be communicated to Mrs. Ewing and the Executors under his Settlement, and the Dean was requested to communicate the same accordingly.

Thereafter it was moved and unanimously resolved that arrangements be made for a suitable Memorial to commemorate the munificence of Mr. Ewing, and a Committee, consisting of the Dean of Guild and Messrs. Connal, Galbraith, Bogle, Cogan, Black, and Watson, were appointed to decide on the best way of carrying the same into effect, with the concurrence of the Executors.

14th March, 1854.

The Directors agreed to petition against the Bankruptcy Bill as follows:—

That your Petitioners hailed with satisfaction the introduction of a Bill into your Right Honourable House, entitled, "An Act to Improve the Administration of Bankruptcy and Insolvency in Scotland," which Bill they were led to believe was to Improve, Consolidate, and Assimilate the Laws of England and Scotland on the subject of Debtor and Creditor; and also to provide for the better Management of Bankrupt Estates.

That accordingly your Petitioners were disposed to give said Bill their favourable consideration; but it is with no little disappointment they find that, instead of combining what was approved of, and avoiding what was objectionable in the Laws and Practice of England and Scotland, it seems to be founded exclusively on the Law

and Practice of England, embracing all its cumbersome, complicated, and expensive machinery, and totally overlooking the more simple and less expensive Practice of Scotland.

That while your Petitioners admit that the Bill contains some Provisions well worthy of consideration, especially in regard to Private Settlements under Voluntary Trusts, they are of opinion that these are far more than counterbalanced by the very objectionable feature, so foreign to the general wants of this Country, of at once transferring the whole Law of Debtor and Creditor from the ordinary Law Courts to a new, untried, and more expensive Jurisdiction, and of taking from the Creditors, to whom it properly belongs, the right to appoint their own Trustee, and to superintend his management of the Estate in which their interests are involved.

That while your Petitioners will not deny that the present Bankrupt Law and Practice of Scotland admit of improvement, yet from all the information they have been able to obtain, they feel convinced that the present Practice in England is far from giving satisfaction,—one proof of which is the frequent, and almost compulsory winding-up, of Estates without the benefit of the Insolvent Act. And accordingly your Petitioners feel confident that the Scotch Statutes presently in operation, revised and consolidated into one with such Amendments as experience may dictate, will be found much better fitted for founding a general Law for England and Scotland, as not only being more simple and more expeditious, but also much less expensive in their operation.

May it therefore please your Lordships to reject the Bill brought into your Lordships' House, entitled, "An Act to Improve the Administration of Bankruptcy and Insolvency in Scotland."

13th June, 1854.

The Lord Dean informed the Meeting that, in accordance with the directions given them at a former Meeting, the Sub-Committee then appointed had used all its influence against Lord Brougham's Bankruptcy Bill; a Deputation had proceeded to London, had obtained interviews with the Lord Chancellor, Lords Brougham and Eglinton, the Lord Advocate, &c., and that it was understood the obnoxious measure had, for the present Session, been withdrawn.

14th November, 1854.

A letter from Robert Stewart, Esq., Lord Provost, as Convener of the Committee on the Patriotic Fund, was read, asking the House to contribute thereto. After deliberation, it was resolved to contribute the sum of £200 from the funds of the House to this Fund.

7th February, 1855.

At a pro re nata Meeting, the House adopted the following
Petition to the House of Commons :—

That a Bill has been brought into your Honourable House, entitled, “ A Bill for Incorporating the Banking Company called The Union Bank of Scotland, for enabling the said Company to sue and be sued, and to take and hold Property, and for other purposes relating to the said Company;” and also “ A Bill for Incorporating the Banking Company called The Western Bank of Scotland, for enabling the said Company to sue and be sued, and to take and hold Property, and for other purposes relating to the said Company.”

That the said Banks have both been established for upwards of twenty years, have numerous Branches in many of the principal Towns of Scotland, and their Head Offices are in Glasgow.

That the establishment of these two Banks, with the principal places of their Business in Glasgow, has been of very great benefit to the Commerce and Trade of the City of Glasgow, and also to the Agricultural Trade of Scotland, from the formation of Local Agencies in many of the most important districts.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in the prosperity of the City of Glasgow, and consequently in the large Monied Interests represented by these Banks, and are anxious that the Legislature should allow to them every privilege consistent with the general good of the Community.

That the privileges sought to be obtained by the Banks referred to, are principally to enable them to hold Property in their Corporate capacity, so as to save the expenses connected with the making up of Titles to Securities and transferring the same; and also, that they may be authorized to receive Deposits of Money connected with Trusts, &c. These privileges are at present enjoyed by five Banks alone, and which five Banks have all their Head Offices in Edinburgh; and your Memorialists cannot see any reason, in justice or expediency, why there should be any Monopoly of such privileges in favour of these Banks, or why the Banks in Glasgow should not enjoy the same advantages.

That the conferring of the privileges desired will be of considerable consequence to the two Banks now applying, and will materially add to their prosperity, while it cannot in the least degree be injurious to the public interest generally, and would, on the contrary, be of advantage to the Commercial Public of Glasgow and West of Scotland.

That your Memorialists consider the amount of Capital and wealth of Proprietary of the Banks promoting said Bills renders their solvency quite unquestionable, and perfectly secures the public from any loss.

May it therefore please your Honourable House to take the said Bills into your favourable consideration, and to grant your sanction thereto, or to do otherwise in the premises as to your Honourable House may seem meet.

13th March, 1855.

In reference to the suggestion that a definite Regulation, sanctioned by the Magistrates, should be adopted for the future guidance of the Directors in the appointment of the Auldhouse Apprentices, the Chairman reported that a Letter had been addressed by the Lord Dean of Guild to the Lord Provost, narrating the terms of the Bequest, together with the difficulty experienced in carrying it out to the letter, and suggesting that the Directors should be invested with a discretionary power in certain clamant cases to admit Grandsons of Merchant Burgesses to the benefit of the Fund, or, should they see it to be more expedient, to bestow the whole on the Sons of Trades Burgesses; that the Lord Provost had acknowledged this communication, and promised to bring it before the City Council on an early day.

28th March, 1855.

At a pro re nata Meeting of the Directors, called, on a Requisition, to consider the propriety of Petitioning both Houses of Parliament against two Bills now pending in the House of Commons, in so far as they will enable the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company, as a Corporate Company, to provide Steam and other Vessels to trade in competition with private Individuals between certain Ports in Ayrshire and Ireland.

After various Members had expressed their opinions, it was moved and seconded—

“That this House, recognizing fully the principle of Unlimited Liability in all Partnerships, at same time deem it inexpedient to petition Parliament against the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Companies Steam Boat Traffic Bills.”

It was then moved as an amendment, and seconded—

“That this House, recognizing fully the principle of Unlimited Liability in all Partnerships, deem it expedient to petition Parliament against the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company's Steam Boat Traffic Bill, which embodies that principle.”

The Motion and amendment were then put from the Chair, when four voted for the Motion and thirteen voted for the amendment, which was consequently carried by a majority of nine, after which a Committee was appointed to prepare and transmit Petitions to Parliament in terms of said Resolution.

17th April, 1855.

The Lord Dean then stated that one of the objects for which the Meeting was called was to consider the propriety of sending an Address to the Emperor of the French on his visit to this Country, adding, that no Deputation would on this occasion be necessary, as his Imperial Majesty was to receive none except the Corporation of the City of London.

It was then moved that an Address be transmitted through the French Ambassador to the Emperor Napoleon the Third, and which Motion having been seconded, was carried unanimously; and the Lord Dean and three other Members were appointed a Committee to prepare and transmit the same, which was accordingly done in the following terms :—

To His Imperial Majesty Napoleon the Third, Emperor of the French.

May it please your Majesty,—We, the Lord Dean of Guild and Directors of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg most respectfully to approach your Imperial Majesty with the expression of our warmest congratulations on your and your Imperial Consort's arrival in this Country, on a visit to our Most Gracious Sovereign.

We regard this visit as a satisfactory proof of that cordiality and friendship now happily subsisting between two great nations; and that, while our heroic Armies are united in repelling unjust aggression, the Countries to which they respectively belong are not less so in every bond of brotherhood and affection.

As a Corporation watching over the Mercantile Interests of this great Community, we view with unfeigned satisfaction your Majesty's distinguished exertions to promote the advancement of Industry and Commerce, and which we cannot doubt will be followed by consequences highly beneficial to both Nations.

As Scotchmen, we hail with enthusiastic feelings the visit of Her Imperial Majesty the Empress Eugenie to a land with which we are proud to think she does not disdain to claim kindred.

As Philanthropists, we earnestly pray that your Majesty's valuable life, together with that of your Imperial Consort, may be long preserved to bind more closely two great realms in every friendly tie, as well as to consolidate every undertaking tending to promote their increased Commercial prosperity.

It was agreed to petition in favour of the Decimal Coinage system in the following terms :—

That the adoption of a Decimal or Simple Arithmetic System of Coins, Weights, and Measures would save a large amount of labour in the daily business of Mercantile Establishments, and would greatly diminish the liability to error in all calculations of quantities and value.

That there is no practical difficulty in the way of the immediate establishment of a Decimal System of Coins and Accounts.

That the first step to such a system has been already taken by the issue of the Florin, marked one-tenth of a Pound.

That to complete the system there is only required the issue of two new Coins—a Silver Coin, to be called a Cent, and to be stamped one-tenth of a Florin, and a Copper Coin, to be called a Mil, to be stamped one-tenth of a Cent.

That the introduction of this system does not require any change in our existing Gold Coins.

That the Pound would still continue to be the first Coin of account.

That the Half-Sovereign would remain, as now, a Coin of change for the Pound.

That the Shilling, important from its use in quotation of prices and wages, would also remain a Coin of change.

That the Sixpence would remain, and would be important in change as the Half-Shilling.

That your Petitioners are of opinion that any other mode of Decimalizing our Currency than from the Pound downward to the Mil is altogether impracticable.

That the Pound constitutes an English national fixed idea of value and position, and is associated with every existing contract, and every comparison of past revenue, expenditure, and price, and must be retained.

That the Decimalization of our Coinage from the Pound has the support of the highest Scientific and Commercial Authorities. That its importance has been urged upon successive Governments by the Royal Commissions of 1838 and 1843, and by the Committee of your Honourable House in 1853. That America, France, and nearly the whole of the Nations of Europe have already adopted Decimal Systems of Money and Accounts.

That whatever changes have been made in the Gold, Silver, or other Coins of those Countries, there has in no instance been any departure from the proved convenience of the Decimal System.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honourable House will be pleased to take such a course as may lead to the early issue of the required Coins to complete the Decimal System of Moneys of accounts from the Pound.

At Glasgow, the 29th day of March, 1855, the Magistrates and Council of the City of Glasgow being in Council assembled, there was submitted the following Letter from the Dean of Guild :—

Merchants House, Glasgow, February 27, 1855.

My Lord,—In the year 1730 or 31, Robert Sanders, Esq. of Auldhouse and Mains of Kirkland, left by Deed of Settlement, of which extract is sent herewith, his Heritable Property to this House. Your Lordship, on perusing this extract, will observe that, of the Interest annually accruing from the proceeds of the Sale of this Property, the Testator directs that “ane hundred pounds, Scots money, shall be paid yearly as a Bursary to ane Student of the University of Glasgow who has past his course of Philosophy, and is following his studies in the said University in order to become a Preacher of the Gospel;” and that “Five Hundred Merks, Scots money, shall be paid yearly, at the term of Martinmas, to Five Poor Boys, of honest parents, Burgesses of the Burgh of Glasgow, whereof three shall be Sons of Merchants and two Sons of Tradesmen, as Apprentice Fees to any lawful honest Trade or Calling within the City of Glasgow, during the ordinary space and time customary for Prentices of the several Crafts and Callings—Ane Hundred Merks, Scots money, to each of the said Boys.” In administering the Bursary to Theological Students, the Directors of this House have, with the aid of the Very Reverend the Principal of the University, found no difficulty; but whether it may arise from the greater wealth of the Merchant Burgesses of Glasgow, or from the fact that their Sons are now rarely apprenticed to a handicraft trade, it so happens that there are now comparatively few applications for the Auldhouse Apprentice Fee from Sons of Merchant Burgesses, whereas the Sons of those of the Burgess Rank still gladly avail themselves of it.

In these circumstances a slight deviation from the Testator's Instructions seems imperatively called for, as it has been found impossible to abide by the strict letter of his Bequest. From the concluding part of the accompanying extract from Mr. Sanders's Trust Deed, your Lordship will perceive that the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow are appointed “Overseers” of this Mortification, that the same in the haill heads and articles thereof may be duly and punctually fulfilled; and, as there are no other parties entitled to interfere, it is now proposed that, as has been already done at Hutchesons' Hospital, the Directors shall obtain the sanction of the Council to bestow this Charity in the way that may seem to them most beneficial—keeping as nearly as may be to the directions of the Testator, but also exercising a discretionary power in certain clamant cases to admit Grandsons of Merchant Burgesses to the benefit of the Fund, or, should they see it to be more expedient, to bestow the whole on the Sons of Trades Burgesses.

May I beg that your Lordship will bring this subject before the City Council, and favour me with their deliverance thereon.

(Signed) Robert Baird, Dean of Guild.

To the Honourable the Lord Provost of Glasgow.

Which Letter having been read and considered, along with the extract from the Trust Deed of Robert Sanders, Esquire, of Auldhouse, therein referred to, the Magistrates and Council are of opinion that the proposal contained in the Dean of Guild's

Letter is reasonable and expedient, and approve thereof accordingly; and authorize an extract of this Minute of approval to be sent to the Dean of Guild.

12th June, 1855.

The Lord Dean produced a Letter which he had received from John Strang, Esq., LL.D., and William Gourlay, Esq., Local Secretaries of the British Association, requesting the use of the Merchants Hall and Committee Rooms, for about a fortnight or three weeks, at the time of the Meeting of the Association in September next.

The Meeting, after deliberation, unanimously acceded to this request.

15th June, 1855.

The Lord Dean having stated that this Meeting had been convened to consider—1st, “The Limited Liability Bill;” and 2nd, “A Bill to Amend the Law of Partnership,” both now before Parliament; the Committee having accordingly deliberated upon the same, determined upon the following Report:—

1st. Limited Liability Bill. Your Committee having considered the principle and provisions proposed to be established by the passing of this Act, are unanimously of opinion that the House should oppose the Bill for the following reasons:—1st. That it would establish a system of fictitious credit, which would be destructive, in the first instance at least, of all private enterprise. 2nd. That the spirit of private enterprise in this Country is so active, and the means of obtaining Capital so facile, that a check rather than an encouragement might be considered necessary. 3rd. That the mode prescribed by this Act, as well as the existing mode through the Board of Trade for granting Certificates of Limited Liability to Joint Stock Companies, appear to your Committee highly objectionable, it being their opinion that Charters of Limited Liability should alone be granted directly by the Imperial Parliament. Your Committee, having such strong objections to the principle of this Bill, do not consider it necessary to trouble the House with their numerous and decided objections to the details of the measure.

2nd. A Bill to amend the Law of Partnership. Your Committee, having taken into consideration the principle and provisions of this Bill, recommend by a majority that the House should petition against it, in respect that although some of its provisions seem not objectionable, yet, as a whole, your Committee feel called upon to recommend to the House to petition against it.

19th June, 1855.

The Lord Dean of Guild moved that the Report upon the Limited Liability Bill, given in the preceding Minute, be approved of, and that

it be remitted back to the same Committee to prepare and transmit a Petition to the House of Commons in terms of the same ; which Motion having been seconded by John King, Esq., was unanimously approved of.

The Lord Dean then moved that that part of the Report which has reference to the Partnership Amendment Bill be approved of, and that it be remitted to the Committee to prepare a Petition to Parliament in accordance therewith, which Motion was seconded by H. E. C. Ewing, Esq. Whereupon Mr. James Clark moved that the House do not petition against the Bill to amend the Law of Partnership, which Motion was seconded by A. Galbraith, Esq.; and the Motion and amendment were put from the Chair, when Messrs. Hannan, Sword, Morgan, Clouston, Ewing, and Connal, voted for the Motion, Messrs. Clark and Galbraith for the amendment, and Messrs. King and Jas. A. Campbell declined to vote, not having had an opportunity of considering the provisions of the Bill.

22d August, 1856.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House it was moved and seconded that William Connal, Esq., be nominated for the office of Dean of Guild, in the room of the late lamented Robert Baird, Esq., and no poll being demanded, the said William Connal, Esq., was unanimously elected Dean of Guild until the statutory period for the Annual Election on 7th October.

The Chairman then stated that they were all well aware of the eminent services which had been rendered to the House by the late lamented Dean of Guild. He, by the inscrutable decree of Divine Providence, had been removed from amongst them in the prime of his days, and in the midst of his usefulness. He anxiously attended to the duties of his Court, and the general interests of the House, as was more immediately shown by the large number of new Members procured by him, amounting to 240; being a greater number than had been admitted

by any of his predecessors. He therefore believed it would be the unanimous feeling of this Meeting, and he begged to move accordingly, that there should be placed upon their Records this day an affectionate tribute to the merits of the late Dean, accompanied by an expression of sympathy with his bereaved relatives, under this sudden and unlooked for calamity; which Motion was unanimously agreed to, and an Excerpt of this Minute directed to be transmitted to Mr. Baird's relatives.

9th September, 1856.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, it was moved and seconded that William Brown, Esq., be elected Dean of Guild, in room of William Connal, Esq., deceased, until the statutory period arrives for the annual election of Dean and Office-bearers of the House, on 7th October next; and no other person being nominated for the said Office, and no poll being demanded, the said William Brown, Esq., was unanimously elected to the said Office, was invested with the Badge thereof, and took the Chair accordingly.

The Chairman then adverted to the great loss which the House had sustained by the death of William Connal, Esq., and moved that it be placed upon the Records this day how deeply this House sympathizes with the Widow and Relatives of the late William Connal, Esq., under their great and sudden bereavement, and in testimony of this feeling an Excerpt of this Minute should be sent to his Relatives; which Motion was unanimously and cordially agreed to.

The Chairman then stated that the Relatives of the late Robert Baird, Esq., having understood that it was his intention to have made a donation to the funds of this House, and being desirous of carrying out his wishes, had last week paid the sum of £1,000 to the Collector of this House, as a donation from the Estate of their late Brother, and moved that an expression of the gratitude of the House should be con-

veyed to the Messrs. Baird for their liberality ; which Motion was unanimously and cordially approved of.

9th June, 1857.

A Letter addressed to the Lord Dean of Guild, from Alexander Gilmour, Esq., Secretary to the Trustees of the late John Ferguson, Esq., of Cairnbrook, dated 19th May, was read, intimating a grant from them of £300 for the Charitable purposes of the House, and a subsequent communication from the same party, dated 5th instant, was also read, in which a further sum of £200 is allocated by the Trustees with the following recommendation:—As Mr. Graham, who resides in Dumfriesshire, was a particular friend of the late Mr. Ferguson, and the Trustees understand that he gets some allowance from the Merchants House, they recommend that in addition Mr. Graham be allowed by the House an annual sum during his life (said to be upwards of 80) corresponding to this additional grant.

The Meeting, after deliberation, determined to accept of the whole sum of £500, and to increase the allowance of Mr. Graham, now a Pensioner upon the funds of the House, from £20 to £50.

The Lord Dean proposed that a vote of thanks should be given to the Trustees for their liberality, and that an Excerpt of the Minute intimating the same should be sent to them by the Clerk; which Motion was unanimously and cordially carried.

9th March, 1858.

The Lord Dean stated that one-eighth of Mr. Ewing's Bequests, amounting to £3,487, 10s., had been received, and when the annual interest of this sum became payable it would fall to the Directors to appropriate the same according to the instructions of the benevolent donor.

The Lord Dean likewise stated that he had had an opportunity of

perusing the Trust Deed of the late James Buchanan, Esq., in which a Bequest of the Interest of £10,000 is made to the House, which is, however, contingent upon the death of the Testator's Widow. The Meeting expressed its gratification at the improved pecuniary prospects of the House.

13th April, 1858.

At a Meeting of the Auldhouse Committee the Clerk expressed his wish to receive the instructions of the Committee as to the proper time to elapse between the binding of the Apprentices and the payment of the Apprentice Fees.

The Meeting, after deliberation, determined that all the Apprentices should be bound before the Whitsunday term in each year, and that the Apprentice Fee may be paid in the January following, if they are then found to be giving satisfaction to their Masters.

24th May, 1858.

The Lord Dean stated that this Meeting having been convened to consider the Bill now in Parliament, promoted by the Clyde Trustees, and which, as altered in Committee, proposes to take away two out of four of the Representatives from this House, he considered such a measure as not only injudicious, but also totally uncalled for, in as far as the Representatives of this House had not only been among the most active, but also the most useful Members of the Trust.

The Meeting generally having expressed its cordial concurrence in these sentiments, it was eventually moved, that considering that the Merchants House consists of about 2,000 Members, comprising all classes of the Shipping, Mercantile, and Trading interests of the City, the Directors view with regret and surprise a proposal now made by the Committee on the new Clyde Navigation Bill, to reduce the number of their Representatives at the Board of the Clyde Trust, which they

cannot but consider as unfair and inexpedient; and they would respectfully submit to the Committee of the House of Commons, now convened on this question, as well as to the Mercantile interests of the City, both supporters and opponents of the present Bill, whether, instead of reducing the number one-half, it might not be advisable to give an increased number to such a large and respectable Constituency as the Merchants House embodies, seeing the Members to the River Trust are nominated by the whole House; which Motion having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

It was thereafter moved that the Directors having had under consideration the change contemplated in the Constitution of the Trust by the introduction of Nine Members representing a new Constituency, although favourable to a certain amount of change, yet they cannot view without concern the Constituency now proposed to be substituted for that at present in operation; and they trust that all parties interested will unite in their efforts to secure a well-defined and workable Constitution; which Motion having been seconded, was unanimously agreed to.

It was then moved by William Auld, Esq., that the Lord Dean of Guild, together with Messrs. J. D. Bryce, James Lumsden, James Murray, and John Ronald, be appointed as a Committee to confer with the promoters and opponents of the Bill; which Motion having been seconded by George Readman, Esq., was carried unanimously, and the Collector was instructed to insert the proceedings of this Meeting in three of the Glasgow Newspapers.

28th May, 1858.

The Lord Dean then stated that this Meeting had been specially convened to consider the provisions of a Bill promoted by the Trustees of the River Clyde, and which, as altered in a Committee of the House of Commons, would take away two out of four of the Representatives

from the Merchants House. Without going, therefore, into the general merits of the Bill, he thought the House should make an effort to preserve its privileges, and a Motion had been prepared, which would now be submitted. Mr. James Murray, in rising to move a Resolution to the House, said that it had already met the unanimous support of the Directors of the House, and it was in these terms:—

That seeing the Merchants House of this City consists of a Constituency of about 2,000 Members, embracing all classes of Merchants, Manufacturers, Ship Owners, and Traders, and it being acknowledged on all hands that the Three Members, with the Dean of Guild, hitherto nominated to the River Trust, have been efficient and desirable Members, this House, with all deference to the expressed opinion of the Committee of the House of Commons, cannot but consider the present proposal of said Committee to reduce their number to Two Members, to be founded on imperfect knowledge of the extent of the Constituency and character of the Merchants House, and would venture to express a hope that they, on being better informed, may rather extend the number from the Merchants House, as being the best Representative Institution of the Commercial and Trading interests of the City.

Which Motion was seconded by Mr. Alexander Ewing.

Mr. Allan Gilmour, after some observations, proposed the following amendment:—

This Meeting resolve to leave the Constitution in the hands of the Committee of the House of Commons, being perfectly satisfied they will do full justice in the matter.

Which amendment was seconded by Mr. George Smith. The House then proceeded to vote, when twenty-three hands were held up for the amendment, and twenty-six for the Motion, which was accordingly declared carried.

2nd July, 1858.

The Lord Dean stated that he had convened this Meeting to consider the subject of Consular Appointments abroad, in regard to which a Committee of the House of Commons was now sitting. Mr. Dalglish, one of the Members of Parliament for the City, had brought this subject under his notice in two letters (which were read), and in which he

inquires whether the House would wish to send up a Deputation to London to be examined before said Committee.

The Lord Dean further stated that considering this to be a subject of public and general importance, he had invited about fifteen Merchants of the City, as representatives of the different trading interests, to attend this Meeting, who might favour the Directors with their suggestions on this subject. Seven of these having responded to this invitation, a general conversation ensued, in which it appeared that the chief grievances complained of had arisen,—

1st. From the appointment of persons by influence, although not the best qualified for the office.

2nd. From the payment of Consuls by fees rather than a fixed salary.

3rd. From Consuls being themselves engaged in business as Merchants.

The Meeting was of opinion that redress in these matters ought to be sought for, and having learned that a Meeting of the Ship Owners Association is to be held this day, they appointed the Lord Dean of Guild, together with Messrs. Thomas Buchanan and T. D. Findlay, also Messrs. Birrell and Clouston, to attend said Meeting as a Deputation, to co-operate in such measures as may be taken to secure the object in view, and further, to express the readiness of this House to share the expense of a Deputation to London, should it be deemed expedient to send one.

The Lord Dean stated that he considered it would be very advantageous that this House should have an Agent in London, whose duty it would be to furnish regular information as to Bills in Parliament, Committees, and other public business in which the House was interested; and he begged to move that negotiations should be opened for this purpose; of which Motion the Meeting cordially approved, and directed enquiries to be made accordingly, which the Lord Dean undertook to make.

18th August, 1858.

The Lord Dean stated that he had convened this Meeting to take into consideration what sum should be contributed to the Relief Committee, and called upon the Clerk to read the Minute of the Necropolis Committee, of 13th current, whereby it appears that the whole sum disbursed by them, from 2nd January to the end of June, was £1,046, 14s. 5d.; £705, 0s. 11d. of which consisted of wages, and the remainder, or £341, 13s. 6d., represented the outlays for bread and soup.

The Meeting, after mature deliberation upon the whole circumstances of the case, and also taking into consideration the value of the work done, was of opinion that a sum of £600 should be contributed to the Relief Committee, and directed that the Clerk shall pay this sum accordingly; £500 of the amount to be paid from the funds of the Necropolis, and £100 as a contribution from those of the Merchants House; and the Collector was authorized, if necessary, to transfer what amount of Merchants House funds may be required to those of the Necropolis, as a loan, to enable this sum to be paid without overdrawing the Bank account.

It was resolved that it would tend to obviate any difficulty hitherto experienced, were a Sub-Committee of Directors appointed to meet monthly, and to which the Names of those Gentlemen deemed eligible as Members should be submitted for approval, before being solicited to put their Names in the Matriculation Book.

The following Report of the Committee appointed with regard to the Property of the House was then presented :—

As a Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose of obtaining Plans and Descriptions of the Heritable Properties belonging to the House, we have completed that work as regards the Property at the corner of George Square and South Frederick Street, and also the Property in Hutcheson Street.

These Plans, &c., we now lay before the Directors, authenticated by our Signatures (namely—James Hannan, James Lumsden, and John Ronald) and the Seal of the House. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining these Plans, and we recommend that they be kept with greater care than heretofore. With regard to

obtaining Plans, &c., of the Property in Drygate Street, and also of the Necropolis, we recommend that such be delayed until the Government Survey of that locality is published.

5th October, 1858.

At a Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, the Lord Dean called upon the Clerk to read the following Report by the Committee appointed to consider the Constitution of the House:—

Your Committee have carefully considered the Remit made to them with reference to the Regulations of the House, which were sanctioned on 3rd October, 1833. These seem still to your Committee to be all that could be desired, excepting that, from the greatly increased number of Matriculated Members, the system of voting at the Annual Elections of Office-bearers by “signed Lists” in the event of a Poll being demanded, would be both expensive and almost unworkable.

With a view to obviate this difficulty, your Committee have consulted the Legal Adviser of the House, and now present his Letter, dated 7th May last, whereby it appears not only that he accounts a slight change as very desirable, but also points out the mode by which it may be accomplished.

Your Committee are unanimous in recommending the proposed Alteration to the favourable consideration of the House, and propose the following Resolution.

[The Resolution in question, with certain amendments, was enacted as a Bye-law, and is given in the Minutes of 9th November, 1858.]

The Lord Dean thereafter adverted to the Clause in the Annual Report having reference to the Educational Bequest of the late James Buchanan, Esq., and stated that the Directors were all favourable to a Subscription in aid of it; whereupon the following Resolution was proposed by John Ronald, Esq.:—

That the Lord Dean of Guild shall be authorized to contribute, from the funds of the Merchants House, £500 to aid the Corporation in providing a suitable Educational and Training Institution, so that the benefit of the Municipal Bequest of the late James Buchanan, Esq., of £3,000 per Annum for Educational purposes, may be secured to the City; which having been seconded by James Muirhead, Esq., was unanimously agreed to.

9th November, 1858.

At a Special Meeting of the Matriculated Members of the Merchants House, the Motion tabled by Mr. James Crum at last Meeting, with certain verbal alterations, was seconded by Mr. Hannan, and was adopted unanimously in the form following :—

Whereas great inconvenience and difficulty would be experienced, and much expense incurred in carrying through the Elections of the Dean of Guild and Directors under Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Regulations adopted by the House on 3rd October, 1833, the said Articles, in so far as applicable to the Election of the Dean and Directors, be repealed; and, in lieu thereof, the following Regulations be enacted :—

That on the fourth Tuesday before the day fixed by the Burgh Reform Act for Scotland for the Election of the Town Council, the Annual Meeting of the whole Matriculated Members of the Merchants House shall be called by Circulars to be issued, and by an Advertisement in three or more of the Newspapers published in Glasgow, at least eight days previous to such Meeting in the Merchants Hall or such other suitable place in the City of Glasgow as may be fixed on by the Dean of Guild and Directors, at Twelve o'Clock noon, for the Election of the Dean of Guild and Thirty-six Directors; and in the event of any difference of opinion the Dean and Directors shall be chosen in succession by a majority of Votes of the Matriculated Members present at such Meeting; and in the event of an Equality of Votes, that the Chairman shall have his Deliberative Vote and a Casting Vote also.

23rd December, 1858.

The advertisement calling the Meeting for the purpose of electing three persons to be Directors of the Buchanan Educational Institution, and which had been inserted in the "Mail" and "Herald" of 15th, and the "Courier" of the 16th December, having been read, the Lord Dean read Extracts from the Trust Disposition of the late Mr. James Buchanan, explaining the nature of the Bequest, and also narrating how the Institution is to be managed, and thereafter proposed that Messrs. John D. Bryce, Michael Connal, and James Alexander Campbell, should be elected Directors of said Institution, on the part of the Merchants House, until the 8th of November next, when, according to Statute, the election of Clyde Trustees will fall again to take place, and with which it is intended that the future election of Directors of the Buchanan Institution shall be simultaneous.

The Lord Dean further stated that the Gentlemen whose names he had proposed had been sanctioned by the Directors. The House thereupon unanimously approved of said nomination, and they were declared duly elected as Directors of the Buchanan Bequest accordingly; and an Extract of the above Election was sent to Mr. Munro, Town Clerk.

The Dean then reported that on the 28th ultimo the Executors of the late John Crum, Esq., had paid the Legacy of £200 left by that Gentleman to the House, under deduction of £21 for Legacy duty, &c.

The Dean suggested that the proposal for procuring a suitable Memorial of Mr. Ewing should now be carried into effect; and as it was stated by Mr. James Crum that Mr. Ewing's relatives considered that a Bust—the cast of which is in the possession of Mr. Walter Crum—is the best representation in existence of Mr. Ewing's features and appearance, a Committee was appointed to proceed to arrange with some Sculptor to have a copy thereof made in Marble.

The Meeting thereafter took into consideration the subject of the "Piers and Harbours Bill" now before Parliament, and, after deliberation, unanimously resolved to petition both Houses against said Bill.

The Dean then brought before the Meeting the subject of the "Sale of Grain Bill," also lately introduced in the House of Commons. After hearing the opinion of several Gentlemen there present, the Meeting was unanimously of opinion that this House should petition Parliament in favour of this Bill.

The Meeting being duly impressed with the liberality of the late Mr. Daniel Gilchrist in bequeathing the sum of £50 towards the Funds of this House, unanimously resolved to record their appreciation of the same in their Minutes; and the Clerk was requested to send an Extract thereof to Messrs. Lamond and Macluckie, to be by them communicated to Mr. Gilchrist's Trustees.

11th September, 1859.

At a Meeting of the Annual Committee on Books, Revenue, and Pensions, besides the Statements of the Affairs of the House, made out in the same form as on previous occasions, there was likewise presented another set of Statements made out on a different principle from these, separating the Receipts and Payments on account of Capital from those on account of Revenue. The Meeting having considered these Statements, approved of the change proposed.

The Collector was instructed in future to enter his Receipts and Disbursements in a Cash Account, instead of a Treasurer's Account, as hitherto; as also to open separate Accounts for the Income to be derived from the three Mortifications of £10,000 each, by the late James Ewing, Esq., and the Auldhouse Mortifications, in order that the application of the funds devoted to the several purposes indicated by the Testators may be clearly shown.

21st March, 1861.

At a Meeting of Directors, specially called for the purpose of presenting an Address of Condolence to the Queen on the death of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the following Address was agreed to.

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Dean of Guild and Members of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, with feelings of profound respect and continued loyalty, approach your Majesty to offer our deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolence under the severe bereavement which your Majesty and the other Members of the Royal Family have sustained in the removal by death of your illustrious parent, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.

Believing that the sympathy of your loving subjects must be consoling in the time of affliction, we humbly beg to assure your Majesty that the Members of this House, in common with all classes of this great community, not only participate in your present sorrow, but at all times take a deep and sincere interest in whatever affects your domestic relations.

We earnestly pray that your Majesty and your illustrious Family may receive the Divine support under the loss of one who was adorned by so many virtues.

(Signed) James Lumsden, Dean of Guild.

11th June, 1861.

The Minute and Correspondence connected with the sum of £1,000, received on the 20th ultimo from the Representatives of the late Robert Jamieson, Esq., having been read, the Directors unanimously approved and confirmed the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and directed that the Beneficiaries named by Mr. John Jamieson should be apprised that their first Quarterly payments will be made to them upon Tuesday, the 13th day of August next, and quarterly thereafter, upon the second Tuesday of November, February, and May.

The Meeting further directed that extracts of the Minutes connected with this Gift should be transmitted to John Jamieson, Esq., ex-Dean of Guild, with the request that he will forward them to the representatives of the late Robert Jamieson, Esq., in London, and that he would express in appropriate terms the high sense which the House entertained of the kindness and liberality of this handsome Bequest.

The Dean read a Letter from Mrs. Buchanan, Moray Place, Edinburgh, dated 21st ultimo, intimating that she had forwarded to him a Marble Bust of her late husband, James Buchanan, Esquire, and requesting that he would present it in her name to the Merchants House.

Upon the Motion of the Dean of Guild, it was unanimously agreed to accept of the same, and to return the best thanks of the House to Mrs. Buchanan for her very considerate and handsome gift, which they directed to be placed in a suitable position in the Hall, as a Memorial of one whose munificent Bequests for Educational and other Benevolent purposes evince the deep and lively interest which he felt in the moral and spiritual welfare of his native city. The Meeting further directed that the Clerk be instructed to transmit to Mrs. Buchanan a copy of this Minute.

The Dean of Guild informed the Meeting that Mr. John Cree, who has for long been a Member and was formerly a Director of the Merchants House, has presented as a Gift, towards its general purposes, the

sum of £100, and moved that the cordial thanks of the House should be tendered to Mr. Cree for his liberal and judicious gift, which Motion was unanimously agreed to, and the Clerk instructed to transmit to him an excerpt of this Minute.

7th October, 1861.

At a Meeting of Directors of the Merchants House the Clerk read the following Letter from Mr. Cockey, Secretary of Stirling's Library:—

Sir,—The Directors of Stirling's Library, in consequence of the dilapidated state of the Building, formerly Mr. Stirling's dwelling, have come to the conclusion that it is desirable to put up a new erection on the site of the present ruinous structure, which, besides affording increased accommodation needed for the Library, may be expected to yield an adequate rental for the ground, and return for the money to be expended.

Plans for the new Building proposed have been prepared, and may be seen at the Library.

Before the Directors can take any further steps, it is necessary to obtain permission from the Court of Session to borrow money on security of the property, and also to get the sanction of the four Public Bodies by whom the Directors are appointed, to proceed with the Building.

I am to request that you will lay this Letter before the Merchants House at their first Meeting, and that their decision may be intimated to the Directors as soon as possible.

Whereupon the Dean moved that the permission to borrow money on the new Buildings proposed to be erected should be given as requested, which Motion having been unanimously agreed to, the Clerk was instructed to transmit an extract of this Minute to the Secretary of Stirling's Library accordingly.

10th December, 1861.

The Dean stated that the Trustees of the late Mr. Ewing of Strathleven had determined to pay, at Candlemas next, to the postponed Legatees a further Instalment of 3s. per Pound, which will make up One Half of the various Sums Bequeathed, and yield an addition of about £4,000 to the Sums already received.

23rd December, 1861.

At a Meeting of the Directors, specially called for the purpose of presenting an Address of Condolence to the Queen on the death of His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the following was unanimously agreed to:—

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, the Dean of Guild and Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, with feelings of profound sorrow in approaching the Throne, beg to offer your Majesty and august Family our sincere sympathy and condolence on the severe and sudden bereavement with which it has pleased Almighty God to visit you in the death of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort.

We desire, with the deepest feelings of loyalty and affection towards your Majesty, to record the high admiration in which, from his numerous virtues, the Prince Consort was held by the whole British Nation, whether as a devoted husband, a kind and affectionate parent, or a wise and judicious counsellor.

Our fervent prayer is, that your Majesty may receive that Divine support which can alone sustain you under your irreparable loss; and that you may be long spared to reign over a loyal, affectionate, and devoted people.

(Signed) James Lumsden, Dean of Guild.

20th May, 1862.

The Dean stated that this Meeting had been specially called to consider a suggestion for the Amendment of the Insolvency Law, made by the Institute of Accountants, and also a Report on the same subject by the Dean and Council of the Faculty of Procurators of Glasgow; which suggestion and Report having been read by the Clerk, after mature deliberation the Meeting unanimously resolved:—

1st. That the principle of the suggestion—namely, that of affording, in cases of Insolvency, to a large majority of the Creditors, increased facilities for having their desires carried out with regard to Voluntary Trust Deeds or other extra-judicial arrangements and settlements with their Debtors—is one of much importance to the Commercial Community, and merits the support of the House.

2nd. That the Dean of Guild and Messrs. James Clark and John M'Ewan be now appointed a Committee to co-operate with other Bodies in bringing this subject under the notice of the Lord Advocate.

16th July, 1862.

At a Meeting of the Committee on Books, Revenue, and Pensions, the Dean stated that he had convened this Meeting to consider the

following Letter which had been received from the Agent of Colin Campbell, Esq.:—

Glasgow, 6th June, 1862.

Dear Sir,—With reference to our conversation on this subject, I have now to submit the following Proposal, which I am authorized and have been requested to make to the Lord Dean of Guild and Directors of the Merchants House, on behalf of Colin Campbell, Esq., of Colgrain.

Upwards of thirty years ago Mr. Campbell, being then Proprietor of an Estate in British Guiana called Good Success, accepted a Bill of Exchange for £400, Sterling, drawn by his Attorney there on account of that Property, which Draft was never presented for Payment, and although Mr. Campbell tried to find out the holder of the Bill, he did not succeed, and the Bill never appeared, and remains unpaid.

Mr. Campbell, not wishing to retain Money which does not really belong to him, has long intended to apply the amount to some Benevolent purpose, and now thinks he cannot do better than offer it, with Bank Interest at the rate of Two per Cent. per Annum, to the Merchants House, on condition that he shall be Guaranteed against any Call for Payment of the Bill hereafter—a contingency which is not now probable.

The Bill, I believe, was dated 11th February, 1828, and fell due on 11th July of same year, being nearly Thirty-four Years ago. Should the Lord Dean of Guild and Directors agree to accept Mr. Campbell's offer, he will be prepared on 11th proximo to pay the amount of the Bill,

the Bill,	£400
And 34 Years' Interest thereon at Two per Cent. per Annum,	272
	<u>£672</u>

I am, &c.,

(Signed) John Smith.

The Meeting, after deliberation, agreed to accept of the Money on the terms offered, but as there is a possibility of its being reclaimed until the long prescription takes place, on 14th July, 1868, the Meeting also determined to accumulate the Annual Interest along with the principal sum until that period, after which it will become the absolute property of the House, and be dealt with in the same manner as its ordinary funds.

The Crown Agent's claim for arrears of surplus Tiends on Easter and Wester Craigs property from the year 1837 till 1859, amounting to £156, 11s. 6d., was then produced, as to which the Dean stated that after a careful examination of the Allocation, Titles, &c., by Messrs.

Morrison and Anderson, a letter had been received from them, recommending that the claim should be paid.

The Meeting was of opinion that the claim should be at once settled, and gave directions accordingly.

16th July, 1862.

The Dean stated that since last Meeting he had received the following letter from James Ritchie, Esq.:—

Glasgow, 30th April, 1862.

Dear Sir,—I beg to intimate to you that the Trustees of the late Mr. Alexander Baird of Ury, have, out of the sum placed by the deceased at their disposal for Charitable and Religious objects, allotted the sum of £500 to the Glasgow Merchants House, and that this sum, less Legacy duty, will be paid by me on Friday first, between 11 and 1 o'clock, on your presenting a stamped Receipt for the same, signed by the Treasurer of the Institution. I am, &c.

The Dean then moved that an expression of the gratitude of the House should be conveyed to the Trustees of the late Alexander Baird, Esq. of Ury, for the handsome addition to its funds; which Motion was unanimously and cordially approved of.

16th September, 1862.

The state of the Pension Roll was found to stand as follows, viz:—

From the General Funds of the House,	.	.	.	.	£1,351	0	0
Speirs' Gift,	.	.	.	.	80	0	0
Ewing's Bequests, No. 1,	.	.	.	.	160	0	0
Ditto, 2,	.	.	.	.	150	0	0
Ditto, 3,	.	.	.	.	180	0	0
Govan's Mortification,	.	.	.	.	24	0	0
Donaldson's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	10	0	0
Graham's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	3	10	0
Moll's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	4	0	0
Spreull's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	4	0	0
Aird's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	17	10	8
Selkirk's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	2	4	0
Luke's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	9	4	0
Peter's Ditto,	.	.	.	.	8	0	0
Total,					£2,003	8	8

17th February, 1863.

The Dean stated that this Meeting had been convened to take into consideration the propriety of illuminating the front of the Merchants House on the 10th proximo, the evening of the day of the Prince of Wales' Marriage. This he considered as a proper mark of respect and loyalty on the part of this House, and a similar one, he understood, was contemplated by the Corporation and other Public Bodies in Glasgow. The Meeting unanimously concurred in the views expressed by the Dean ; and it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that a sum of £25 be placed at the disposal of the Dean for this purpose, and that he be respectfully requested to make the necessary arrangements, which he agreed to do.

10th March, 1863.

The Dean of Guild proposed, and the Meeting unanimously agreed, to present the following Address to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on his Marriage, to be transmitted through his Secretary :—

Most Gracious Prince,—We, the Lord Dean of Guild and Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg leave to offer to your Royal Highness our sincere congratulations on the present auspicious occasion.

We hail the Union of your Royal Highness with a Protestant Princess, of high accomplishments and ancient Lineage, as an additional Guarantee for the stability of the Throne and our invaluable Constitution.

We tender to your Royal Highness and to your Illustrious Consort this ardent expression of our devoted loyalty and attachment to your Royal House ; and we implore the Almighty Disposer of events to bestow on your Union every temporal and spiritual blessing.

We have watched with ever-increasing interest and pleasure the fair promise of your Royal Highness's youth, under the guidance of your Illustrious Parents, and now that the onerous duties of maturer years are devolving upon you, we earnestly pray that your Royal Highness and your Illustrious Consort may be long spared to us, to exemplify in your future lives the fruits of those virtuous and religious principles which they strove to impart to you, and by which they themselves have ever been so highly distinguished.

(Signed) Alex. Ronaldson, Dean of Guild.

20th April, 1863.

The Dean stated that he had called the Meeting to consider that part of Mr. Gladstone's Budget which had been proposed to the House of Commons last week, and which contemplates a cessation of the Immunity from Income Tax, hitherto enjoyed by this and other Charitable Institutions.

A Petition was sent to the House of Commons to the following effect:—

That this House regards with deep anxiety and alarm the Resolutions laid before your Honourable House by the Right Honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whereby it is proposed to subject Charitable Institutions such as this to the payment of Income Tax.

That the recipients of the bounty of this House, while of a higher grade than those who are called upon to seek parochial relief, are of that class whose incomes range from £50 to £100 per annum, and the deduction from whom of Income Tax would prove a serious evil. That the whole of the income of this House, excepting the expenditure necessary for its collection, is devoted to recipients of the class already referred to.

May it therefore please your Honourable House not to pass said Resolution into Law, and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

9th June, 1863.

It was intimated that the Petition against the Imposition of Income Tax on this and other Charitable Institutions had not been without effect, as the Measure had been abandoned.

8th September, 1863.

The propriety of making a printed Transcript of the Scriptural Rules for Buying and Selling having been considered, it was left to the Dean of Guild and Collector to get the same done, if they shall see fit.

9th February, 1864.

The Lord Dean stated that he had convened this Meeting for the purpose, if the House should so determine, of sending Addresses of Congratulation to the Queen, and also to the Prince and Princess of Wales,

on the Birth of an Heir to the Throne. The Meeting, without a vote, unanimously and cordially approved thereof. The following Addresses were directed to be despatched, viz :—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign,—We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Lord Dean of Guild and Members of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, approach the Throne to offer to your Majesty our ardent Congratulations on the Birth of a Son to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

While we unite with a Nation's aspirations that this joyful event may add to the Happiness of the Royal Parents, we also pray that it may prove a consolation to your Majesty under the severe Bereavement your Majesty has sustained.

(Signed) Alex. Ronaldson, Dean of Guild.

To their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Most Gracious Prince and Princess,—We, the Lord Dean of Guild and Members of the Merchants House of the City of Glasgow, beg to tender to your Royal Highnesses our heartfelt Congratulations on the Birth of a Son.

May he prove all that his Parents and all that a Nation could desire; and, in watching over his opening faculties, may your Royal Highnesses have the delight of finding that, like that Great Master whom we all profess to serve, he grows in favour with God and Man.

(Signed) Alex. Ronaldson, Dean of Guild.

29th February, 1864.

The Lord Dean stated that it had been suggested by several Directors as very desirable that this House, besides the Bust in the Hall up stairs, should obtain a copy of the Portrait of Mr. Ewing of Strathleven, who had been so munificent a benefactor to it, for the purpose of being put up in the Directors Room, and that, with the sanction of the present Meeting, he would propose that Mr. Graham Gilbert be asked to copy his own Portrait of Mr. Ewing, now at Cathkin, to supply this want. The Meeting unanimously approved of this suggestion, and left it to the Lord Dean of Guild to make the necessary arrangements.

14th April, 1864.

The Lord Dean stated that he had called a special Meeting of Directors for the 21st March, to consider the propriety of Memorializing

the Postmaster General to change the Mail Packet Station from Southampton to Falmouth; that although on that occasion a quorum did not attend, the Gentlemen present desired further information before Memorializing; and the Clerk was instructed to address Letters to the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, the Secretary of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Packet Company, London, and the Mayor of Southampton to elicit such information. The replies to these communications having been read, it was, after considerable discussion, agreed that a short Memorial should be addressed to the Postmaster General, embracing two points only,—First, that the Mails should be sorted on board the steamers before arrival; and second, that they should be landed at Falmouth; and it was left to the Dean to forward a Memorial setting forth these views accordingly.

14th June, 1864.

There was read a Letter intimating the bequest to the House by the late Thomas Buchanan, Esq., of £2,200, Consolidated 5 per cent. Preference Stock, No. 1 of the Caledonian Railway Company, subject to the life-rent of two ladies.

The Lord Dean then stated that he availed himself of this first opportunity of expressing to the Meeting his sense of the very great loss which the Community of Glasgow, and more especially this House—in which he always manifested so lively an interest—has sustained by the death of the late Thomas Buchanan, Esq., and moved that it be placed upon the Records this day, how deeply the House sympathizes with the Relations of Mr. Buchanan under their loss; which Motion was unanimously and cordially agreed to, and the Clerk instructed to transmit an Excerpt of this Minute to John Buchanan, Esq., to communicate to his Relatives.

13th September, 1864.

The Lord Dean of Guild then called the attention of the Meeting to the Pictures of the House, which had been beautifully cleaned under the inspection of Mr. Graham Gilbert, and who, although he had taken much trouble in the matter, had declined all remuneration for his services. He then proposed that a vote of hearty thanks should be recorded to Mr. Graham Gilbert for his kind and liberal services. Of this proposal the Meeting unanimously and cordially approved, and directed the Clerk to send an Excerpt of this Minute to Mr. Graham Gilbert accordingly.

As it appears from the New Act, entitled, "The Port-Glasgow Harbour Consolidation Act, 1864," 27th and 28th Victoriæ, that the former Bill, 12th Geo. III., is Repealed, and the Election of Port-Glasgow Harbour Trustees by this House rendered unnecessary, the Collector was instructed, in advertising the Election of Greenock Harbour Commissioners, to omit, henceforward, all Notice as to the Harbour of Port-Glasgow.

5th October, 1864.

The Lord Dean (Archibald Orr Ewing, Esq.) stated that he understood a very general wish prevailed among the Members to obtain copies of the Regulations and Constitution of this House; and as Mr. James Ewing's valuable Work, published in 1817, was now almost out of print, it seemed very desirable that it should be reprinted, with such additions as would bring down the history to the present time.

The Meeting, fully sympathizing with this feeling, nominated the Lord Dean, together with Messrs. Alexander Ronaldson, James Lumsden, James Alexander Campbell, and Michael Connal as a Committee to consider the matter, and to report their suggestions to a future Meeting.

3rd May, 1865.

At a Special Meeting of the Merchants House, called by public Advertisement, the Lord Dean of Guild proposed the following Resolutions :—

That this House have received the intelligence of the Assassination of President Lincoln, of the United States of America, with sentiments of horror and pain.

That they desire to express their heartfelt sympathy and condolence with the People of the United States, who, in a manner so shocking to every feeling of humanity and so subversive of social order, have been suddenly deprived of their Chief Magistrate at a momentous crisis in the history of their Country.

That this House would record their high respect for the Character of the late President Lincoln, and their grateful remembrance of his endeavours at all times to preserve and cultivate friendly relations with Great Britain ; and they would express their earnest hope and prayer that the prospects of internal Peace, which had opened to the United States during the last days of Mr. Lincoln's life, may not be materially affected by the execrable deed which has brought that life prematurely to an end.

Which Motion was unanimously agreed to.

It was then moved that the Lord Dean of Guild be authorized to sign the Resolutions now read and approved of by this House, and that he thereafter forward them to the United States Government through the American Minister in London ; which Motion having been seconded, was also unanimously carried.

12th December, 1865.

As regards the Circular of 16th ultimo, having reference to the despatching of the American Mails from London upon Friday, in place of Saturday, the Meeting, considering this subject of great importance, instructed the Clerk to write to Liverpool, stating that this House concurs in the reasons given for the propriety of the change contemplated, and will co-operate with the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce in endeavouring to carry it into effect.

A Circular from Mr. Munro, Town Clerk, was produced, in which he requests the House to state whether it assents or dissents, or stands neuter, to the City of Glasgow Improvement Bill in so far as it touches

upon the Property of the House in or near Drygate. The Clerk was instructed to assent to this measure.

13th March, 1866.

The following Report of the Committee on the Reprint of the History of the House was then read :—

The Committee have to report that, from the extent and variety of interesting materials connected with the House, rendered available by the labours of Mr. Andrew Scott, late of Her Majesty's Customs, and of Mr. William H. Hill, whose assistance your Committee obtained, they are of opinion that instead of merely reprinting the View of the House, published in 1817 by Mr. James Ewing, brought down to the present date, it is preferable that a larger and more comprehensive volume, containing, of course, all that is given in Mr. Ewing's History, should now be printed.

* * * * *

It affords your Committee much gratification to state that Mr. Orr Ewing, the Lord Dean of Guild, has most handsomely offered to bear the cost of 750 copies, and to make a present to the House of whatever amount may be obtained from the sale of the volume.

Your Committee would recommend that it be again remitted to them to proceed with the printing and publishing of the volume, with power to undertake the cost of printing, &c., any further copies, over the 750 to be presented by Mr. Orr Ewing, which may be found likely to be required to meet the demand by Members of the House or the Public.

Mr. John Roxburgh then stated that he felt assured he only expressed the unanimous sentiments of the Directors of this House when he proposed, as he now did, a hearty vote of thanks to the Lord Dean of Guild for his munificent gift ; and further, he felt convinced it must be the desire of the House that this liberality should be properly acknowledged in the preface or otherwise of the forthcoming Publication.

To this feeling the whole House most cordially responded, and a vote of thanks to his Lordship, together with the subsequent proposal that his liberality should be properly acknowledged, were carried by acclamation.

The Report was thereupon remitted back to the Committee to proceed with the printing and publishing of the proposed volume, in terms thereof.

13th March, 1866.

A Letter, in the following terms, from Mr. William H. Hill was then read :—

1 South Frederick Street, Glasgow, 12th March, 1866.

My Lord Dean,—I have now the honour to send you two volumes, being the Inventory and Mortification Books referred to in my letter to your Lordship, read to a late Meeting of the Committee of Directors on the Reprint of the History of the House.

I had, as mentioned in that letter, proposed submitting, in addition, a third volume of Memorabilia, but your Lordship's handsome proposal to print these in extenso renders the MSS. comparatively valueless, and I have accordingly not had them engrossed.

Hoping that the volumes sent will be acceptable to the House, and may be found of some use in the future, I remain, &c.,

(Signed) William H. Hill.

Archibald Orr Ewing, Esq. of Ballikinrain,
Lord Dean of Guild.

The thanks of the Meeting were returned to Mr. Hill.

28th June, 1866.

The Meeting having taken into consideration the letter of resignation of Mr. Smith, the present Collector and Clerk, and the appointment of his Successor, the following Report was agreed to be submitted to the Directors at their first Quarterly Meeting :—

Report of the Committee of Directors appointed on 4th April, 1866.

Your Committee having at frequent Meetings carefully considered the remit made to them by the Directors on the 4th of April last, and also given due weight to a letter received from the Legal Advisers of the House dated the 13th day of the same month, wherein it is stated that according to its Constitution an Assistant Collector cannot be legally appointed, beg now to recommend that at the Statutory Meeting for electing Officers of this House in October next, the resignation of the present Collector should be accepted, and that Mr. William Henry Hill, of No. 1 South Frederick Street, should, in terms of his letter of 27th April, be appointed as Collector and Clerk in his stead.

13th September, 1866.

The Lord Dean of Guild, after some observations, in which he referred to various grants which had been made by the House in former years for charitable purposes, and also for the promotion of education, proposed the following resolution :—That the Dean of Guild be

authorized to subscribe on behalf of the Merchants House the sum of One Thousand Pounds, Sterling, for the erection of the New University Buildings and Hospital, the Subscription to be payable in four yearly instalments of £250 each, the first instalment to be paid in 1866, the last in 1869; which Motion was seconded by Mr. James A. Campbell.

Mr. James Lumsden then proposed, as a Counter Motion, that the grant should not be made, stating it as his opinion that, however excellent the object contemplated by the Lord Dean was, it would be a misapplication of the funds of the Merchants House, which ought to be especially devoted to the relief of its own decayed members and their destitute widows or children.

Mr. William M'Ewen seconded Mr. Lumsden's Motion; and, after various members had expressed their opinion on both sides of the question, the House divided, when twelve voted for the Motion of the Lord Dean, and seven for that of Mr. Lumsden, the former thereby becoming the judgment of the House.

It was then proposed by the Chairman that the Dean of Guild be authorized to subscribe One Hundred Pounds to the New Buildings of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum; which Motion was unanimously agreed to, and the Lord Dean of Guild was instructed to carry the same into effect accordingly.

A Letter from the Agents, under the Settlement of the late John Graham Gilbert, Esq., was read in the following terms :—

John Smith, Esq.,
Clerk to the Merchants House,

187 West George Street,
Glasgow, June 13th, 1866.

Dear Sir,—We beg to acquaint you that the late Mr. John Graham Gilbert of Yorkhill, by his Deed of Settlement, directed his Executors to pay to the Merchants House of Glasgow the sum of Twelve Hundred Pounds at the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas after his decease, free of duty and all other charges.

Mr. Graham Gilbert died upon the 4th of June current, so that the Legacy is payable at the term of Martinmas next.

We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. J. & A. Graham.

The Lord Dean having adverted in feeling terms to the loss which the Community has sustained by the death of the late J. Graham Gilbert, Esq., of Yorkhill, a man distinguished for eminence as an artist, and esteemed for his agreeable manners and warmth of heart, proposed that it be recorded in the Minutes of this day's proceedings, how sincerely the House deplores his loss, and how gratefully they receive the handsome Bequest announced by his Executors ; and further, that an Excerpt of this Minute be sent to his bereaved Widow.

Which Motion having been cordially and unanimously agreed to, the Clerk was instructed to transmit an Excerpt of this Minute to the Messrs. Graham, for the purpose of being communicated to Mrs. Graham Gilbert.

NOTES ON WESTER AND EASTER CRAIGS.

THE extensive building operations and other improvements in progress on these ancient possessions of the Merchants House will ere long so completely transform their aspect as to render the old features scarcely recognizable. Among the most remarkable of these changes are the rapid formation of the fine suburb of Dennistoun, and the proposed North-east public park.

In this transition state of things it is probably not undesirable to sketch an outline of the history of Wester and Easter Craigs; and under this impression the following Notes have been prepared, from authentic sources.

The general appellation, "Craigs," has been given to this considerable range of property in consequence of a conspicuous rocky ridge which traverses it nearly all the way from west to east. This ridge has been elevated at a remote geological epoch by subterranean igneous action. The molten trap has raised, cracked, and in some places flowed over and twisted the pre-existing sandstone. Fine examples occur at the Necropolis, and at the adjoining bold escarpment towards the north, where the rock is elevated upwards of two hundred feet above the level of the Clyde.

The Craigs are divided into Wester and Easter. These adjoin, and comprehend the extensive tract of grounds stretching from the romantic gorge through which flows the stream of the Molendinar at the Cathedral, eastward to what is now the line of highway to Edinburgh, *via* Drygait Toll and Cumbernauld. The south boundary is Eastern Duke Street; and the Craigs are skirted on the north partly by the Molendinar, the old Town-Mill Road, and the lands of Kenniehill.

With reference to these boundaries at the present day however, it is proper to state that in ancient times they were somewhat different. On the east the lands then marched with those of Haghill, which belonged, upwards of two hundred years ago, to Mr. William Wilkie, a clergyman, and subsequently to a

family named Tod during several generations.* In these days there was no road in that direction to Cumbernauld. Glasgow was then a small town with a population of only about eleven thousand, and the north road from it to Edinburgh went over Garngad Hill, by Provan Mill, to near Ruchazie, or Hogganfield Loch (the source of the Molendinar), where it wheeled nearly at right angles, and coursed through the woods of Garnkirk, and thence, by Chryston, the back of the fine old Chateau of Bedlay, Hodley How, Mollenburn, &c., till it reached Cumbernauld. The new road from the latter town to Glasgow, now bounding Easter Craigs, was not formed till about 1790, under a special Act of Parliament.†

Again, what is now Eastern Duke Street is an amplification of a narrow road, anciently known as "the Carntyne Lone," which came from the east, but did not extend in the direction of Glasgow farther than the mouth of the Drygait. This Lone was probably one of the oldest roads about the city. There are good reasons for believing that it was of Roman origin, and formed part of a Vicinal Way, which, branching from the great central *Iter* of that warlike people at Carstairs Camp, pursued a course north-west by Carluke, Bellshill, Tolleross, and onwards through what is now the Drygait and Dobbie's Lone, till it joined the *via militaris* which ran parallel with the Antonine Barrier, at a point near the strong mural Fort at Duntocher, with its double lines of ditches

* This Mr. William Wilkie was contemporary with the benevolent founders of Hutchesons' Hospital, and with the celebrated Zachary Boyd, minister of the Barony Parish. Mr. Wilkie is alluded to in Principal Baillie's Letters as having at first demurred, along with the eccentric Zachary, to sign the National Covenant, although they afterwards did subscribe it. The residence of Mr. Wilkie was near the Cathedral, on the east side of Vicar's Alley. He was also proprietor of the lands of Wester Camlachie, near Haghill, afterwards belonging to his son William, who was a writer in Glasgow as far back as 1668. A brother of Mr. Wilkie, sen., named John, also an ecclesiastic, was owner of the estate of Broomhouse, about three miles eastward from Glasgow, where the roads to Bothwell and Holytown branch off from the Tolleross Highway at Broomhouse Toll. It seems further worth noting that this Mr. John Wilkie married the eldest of the three daughters and co-heiresses of James Bell, a wealthy merchant trading with Holland, who was Dean of Guild in 1641 and Lord Provost of Glasgow in 1643, and from whose curious "Compt Book," still preserved, a series of quaint extracts appeared in the Glasgow Herald in June and July, 1864. A descendant of the worthy old Provost's son-in-law is still proprietor of a portion of the Broomhouse lands.

† A survey for a new line of road from Redburn, near Cumbernauld, past Hogganfield Loch, and by Kenniehill, Haghill, and Easter Craigs, to the Carntyne Lone, where the Drygait Toll now stands, was made in 1766 by James Barrie, the well-known land surveyor of last century, assisted by John Burrell and Alexander Shepherd. I have examined their Plan, which is dated 23rd August in that year. The lines of both the old and new roads are delineated, the latter coloured red; but the new was not formed till a number of years afterwards. The portion between Redburn and the mouth of the old transverse road over Garngad Hill, at Hogganfield, was made first. The section from Hogganfield to Carntyne Lone was delayed till about 1790. Contractors were advertised for in the Glasgow Mercury of 26th March, 1788; Offers to be lodged with Mr. George Smith, Writer, Glasgow, Clerk to the Road Trustees.

and earthworks. Pieces of this Roman causeway are still to be seen in the more secluded parts of Lanarkshire, and the tradition regarding its origin is, that it was made from end to end in one night by the wizard Michael Scott, assisted by the devil.

Now, this ancient "Carntyne Lone" continued in its narrow state, skirting the Craigs, down till the latter part of the by-gone century, when it was improved, and a toll-bar placed across it a few yards west from another ancient cross-road, formerly known as "the Witch Lone," but now Bellegrove Street. It is so represented on M'Arthur's large map of the City in 1778. The Carntyne Lone was subsequently widened and straightened, and the toll-bar removed farther east. It has only in very modern times assumed the name of Eastern Duke Street.*

The line of demarcation from north to south, between Wester and Easter Craigs themselves, is now indicated by the lands of Whitehill and Craig-park. The original west boundary of Whitehill was the east march of Wester Craigs.

* A little explanation seems necessary in this matter of boundaries regarding Duke Street, in which the Old Lone is swallowed up. The present line from High Street, eastward, is not the original Duke Street. When what is now George Street was begun from George Square, the general line did not extend farther east, for a number of years, than the Deanside Brae, or Balmanno Street. Between that point and High Street were gardens. The line between George Square and Balmanno Street had three distinct names,—1st, From the Square to John Street was called George Street; 2nd, from John to Montrose, or "Incle Street," was named Cochran Street; and 3rd, the space between Montrose and Balmanno Streets was the first Duke Street. Things remained in that state till near the end of last century. There was then no communication from the Carntyne Road to the newer parts of Glasgow, except by the old circuitous and inconvenient route, up Drygait to the Bell of the Brae, then down High Street and through the Grammar School Wynd to Canon and Ingram Streets, the new names given to the Back Cow Lone, brushed up, widened, and paved shortly before.

Repeated attempts had been made by private individuals to open a more direct line from Carntyne Road, but unsuccessfully. So far back as 1766, James Barrie, already alluded to, was employed to chalk out a new entrance to town. He accordingly traced a line to run from what is now the Drygait toll, in a diagonal direction south-west, through the grounds on which the Infantry Barracks now stand, and terminating in Gallowgait, opposite the Calton Mouth. This diagonal entrance is shown on his general plan referred to in a previous foot-note. But the idea was abandoned.

Another effort was made by an active, enterprising citizen, named William Brown, who was an extensive skinner and manufacturer of chamois-leather gloves. He resided in the once rather fashionable Havanna, opened in 1763, and named after the Capital of Cuba, captured shortly before from the Spaniards. Mr. Brown had a considerable range of garden ground stretching from his house towards the mouth of Drygait. His idea was to form a Street, chiefly through his own grounds, from the west end of Carntyne Road, in a diagonal line, south-west, to the middle of the fragrant Havanna. In 1776 Brown staked it off, and it is alluded to favourably by Mr. David Loch, General Inspector of Fisheries, in his curious Volumes, published in 1778, on "the Trade, Commerce, Manufactures, and Fisheries of Scotland." Mr. Brown also advertised the ground along the line to be feued, and in order to tempt people, he descanted on the fine view, and the charming

But, at a comparatively recent period, a strip of the eastmost section of Wester Craigs was purchased by the proprietor of Whitehill, and enclosed within the fences of the latter; and as there are no march-stones, or other visible objects to point out the exact line of the ancient boundaries between the Craigs, the old march can now be referred to only in this general manner.

So much for the lines of boundary, modern as well as ancient.

The history of Wester and Easter Craigs requires to be separately handled. But as preliminary, it is necessary to clear the way a little.

With respect to Wester Craigs, these lands belonged in Roman Catholic times to James Hamilton, Bishop of Lisnore, and Sub-dean of Glasgow. On the 27th July, 1564, this Bishop granted a Feu-Charter thereof, "with the mylne and kill," to "Alexander Stewart, tutor of Castlemilk," on which, infestment took place next day, "under the subscriptiones of Thomas Knox and Henrie Gibsone, nottaris." A Charter by Queen Mary followed, dated 29th May, 1565, being only two months before her marriage to Darnley.

The next Owners were "Jonat and Euphane Stewartis, dochteris (daughters) and airis portionneris of umquhill (deceased) Alexander Stewart." These ladies resigned Wester Craigs by an Instrument dated 6th April, 1569 (about one year after the battle of Langside, and during the Regency of Murray), in favour of James Stewart, in the hands of "James, Bishop of Argyle, Sub-dean of Glasgow, the Superioris," for new infestment. James Stewart was accordingly infest the same day, and in seven months afterwards resigned the lands to "Matthew Stewart, sone and appeirand air to Sir John Stewart of

Molendinar, purling through the scene. [Glasgow Mercury, 1 August, 1787]. But Brown Street did not take, and was also abandoned.*

At last the Magistrates took the matter in hand, and in 1792 obtained an Improvement Act, authorizing them to form a Street in a straight line from the Carntyne Lone, westward to High Street, and thence to the original Duke Street. The value of the ground to be thus occupied, and of the Houses on both sides of High Street to be demolished, was to be fixed by a Jury, under the auspices of the Sheriff. He accordingly issued an Edict, published in the Glasgow Mercury of 7th January, 1793, and a Jury was empannelled in the Tolbooth Court House at the Cross, on the 18th of that month. Thus the obstacles to private enterprise were overcome, and the existing grand line formed, piercing on to the Carntyne Lone, now Eastern Duke Street, but under the charge of a distinct body of county gentlemen as Trustees. The names of some of the Streets were on this occasion changed. The original Duke and Cochran Streets were merged into the general name of George Street, as at present. The name of Duke Street thus suppressed was transferred to the new line eastward from High Street; and Cochran Street (after old Provost Cochran) was changed to the space now bearing that title, which had previously been called Cotton Street. [Vide Barrie's old Map of Glasgow.]

* Mr. Brown's father-in-law, Mr. John Jamieson, Surgeon, was the first person who brought an umbrella to Glasgow. This was in 1781. He got it in Paris. It was of pea-green silk, with a fringe and a long bamboo handle. There was a large brass ring at the top, for suspension in the lobby of the Doctor's house in King Street. It was an object of no small public curiosity.

Mynto, Knight, and Jonat Stewart, his future Spous,"* who were infeft on 11th November, 1569, by "Mr. Robert Herbertsone, notar."

With regard to Easter Craigs, these lands were the property, prior to the Reformation, of "Mr. Thomas Leveingstoune, thesaurer (treasurer) of Glasgow." On 4th May, 1563, he granted a Feu-Charter of Easter Craigs, with consent of the Dean and Chapter, to "John Leveingstoune," his brother. Eleven years afterwards, Thomas executed another Feu-Charter, "with consent of the Bishope, Deane, and Chapter of Glasgow," to his said brother John. The date of the Sasine, in John Livingston's favour, is 13th June, 1574. The Notary was William Gray.

On 19th October, 1593, James Livingston, son of the said John, was infeft "in the saidis landis of Eister Craigis," on a Precept of Sasine, by his Father, dated 21st June, 1593. The Notary was Robert Blair.

Two years later, "A Charter of Alienatioun" was granted of "Easter Craigs," by the said James Livingston, to "Sir Matthew Stewart of Mynto, Knight," on which he was infeft "under the subscriptiones of Henrie Gibsone and Robert Herbertsone, Nottars."† This Sasine is dated 8th September, 1593.

* This lady was one of the daughters of Alexander Stewart, tutor of Castlemilk, before referred to, the latter having been a brother of the owner of that fine estate. Wester Craigs became the property of Sir Matthew, as his wife's portion, under the deed alluded to in the text. Her sister, "Euphane," married David Crawford, of Cartburn, Renfrewshire.

† The allusion in the text to five ancient Notaries, who practised in Glasgow three hundred years ago, leads to a few remarks. Their names collectively were—Thomas Knox, Henry Gibson, Robert Herbertson, William Gray, and Robert Blair. Probably they originally belonged to the Order of Papal Notaries, abolished at the Reformation, and may have been among the very last of that class in this city. Prior to that event, all Notaries were appointed by the Pope, and were invariably ecclesiastics, versed not only in the Civil, but in the Canon, and the Common or Consuetudinary Law. Indeed, in those days the Laws were administered by ecclesiastics alone. The first President of the Court of Session was a Churchman—David Myln, Abbot of Cambuskenneth. The Monks were generally Notaries, and many of these existed in old ecclesiastical Glasgow, so long ruled by Prelates. Notaries are still appointed in England under ecclesiastical authority, the Archbishop of Canterbury issuing their Commissions. But the Scotch Notary, since the Reformation, holds his office directly from the Crown, through the Lords of Council and Session.

The old Notaries were in fact the Conveyancers of their day, apart from the Procurators or pleaders, and were equivalent to the *Notarii*, and the *Tabelliones* of ancient Rome. Their appellation, or title, is derived from the practice they observed of noting down the wishes of those who required their aid, regarding the acquisition or transfer of property, or the regulation of succession by the dying. These memoranda they threw into rough Drafts or Notes, which were transcribed and authenticated by the *Tabelliones*. But these functions, wrought out separately in Rome, were generally combined in Scotland in one person—the Notary. The industrious Monks, to whom society owes much, as the conservators of learning, history, and the arts, during the deep gloom of barbarism, were, as already said, ecclesiastical Notaries; and many a Glasgow Deed was written by them in the Cloisters, with all the tasteful caligraphy for which they were so pre-eminently distinguished.

The names of the above five old Notaries are also worth preserving, as they practised in

Thus, both Wester and Easter Craigs became the property of Sir Matthew, the former having been acquired by him in 1569, before his father's death, and the latter in 1595—an interval of twenty-six years.

The Stewarts of Mynto, once so well known, exercised predominating influence in Glasgow during nearly two hundred years. The first of the family who settled here, was Sir Thomas. He was a younger son of Sir Walter Stewart of Dalswinton and Garlies, and got from his father the Estate of Mynto, near Hawick, in Roxburghshire. Sir Thomas was Provost of Glasgow as far back as 1472, in the reign of James III., and died in 1500. Five of his descendants held the same office successively. His son, Sir John, who married a daughter of John, Lord Fleming, and was Provost in 1513, commanded a numerous body of Glasgow citizens on the bloody field of Flodden, so disastrous to Scotland, where he was slain with King James IV., and the flower of the Scottish nobility and gentry, on 9th September in that year.* His great-grandson was Sir Matthew Stewart, the proprietor of Wester and Easter Craigs, who succeeded his father in the Mynto estate, *anno* 1583.

Sir Matthew was elected to the Civic Chair twice, viz., in 1580 and 1586 (reign of James VI.), and was provost of Glasgow when the battle of Langside was fought. He was perhaps the most flourishing of all the Mynto line.† Besides the estate of Mynto and the Craigs, Sir Matthew was owner of the lands of Bagradane, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright; Busby, near Glasgow; and part of Arthurlie, in Renfrewshire. His town residence was on the south side, and near the west end, of the Drygait, quite in the vicinity of Wester Craigs. The

Glasgow more than a century before the date of the earliest existing records of the Faculty of Procurators.

* The Field of Flodden is in Northumberland, about five miles from the Scottish Border at Coldstream. The high ground slopes towards Scotland, and commands an extensive prospect. The present Vicarage House of Branxton stands in the centre of the battle-field, and relics of the bloody engagement are still occasionally discovered. A lucid and interesting account of the conflict has been recently published by the Rev. Dr. Robert Jones, Vicar of Branxton, titled, "The Battle of Flodden Field," with diagrams. London: Blackwood, 1864.

The King had dismounted, and was fighting on foot, when slain by an arrow through the eye, and his head cloven by a battle axe. His body was discovered among the crowd of fallen nobility, and removed to Richmond, where it was interred, by special permission from Leo. X., which was necessary, in consequence of James having died under excommunication for having broken the peace with England. His sword, dirk, and ring, are preserved in the Herald's Office, London. The ring is of gold, with a torquoise stone. A MS. Gazette, in French, of the battle, is also extant, in the Herald's College, and is very curious. Among the names of the Scotch nobility and gentry who fell on that fatal day, is that of "Le Doyer (the Dean) de Glasco," alluding to the Provost.

† The ruins of Mynto Tower still exist. The tower has been a small one—in fact, just one of the minor "Keeps" which were so numerous along the Border. It stands on the summit of a rugged eminence, at the bottom of which flows the stream of the Teviot, and commands a very extensive prospect. A drawing appears in the *Antiquities of Scotland*, by Francis Grose, Vol. I., p. 135.



THREE INDEXES LODGINGS IN MARYGATE, - FRONT VIEW.



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THREE INDEXES LODGINGS IN MARYGATE, - BACK VIEW.

Dr. D. D. D.

Lizaberk cunnynghame

Drygait mansion had previously been the residence of a Popish ecclesiastic. Sir Matthew purchased it about twelve years preceding his marriage to Miss Stewart and his acquisition of Wester Craigs. This old edifice was greatly enlarged and improved by the Knight of Mynto, and became quite a notable place. The grounds behind, or to the south, stretched down the slope, as far as what is now the Havanna. In after-times it was popularly known as "the Duke's Lodging," having been a considerable time in the Montrose family, and the building was demolished only a few years ago. The site is now within the enclosures of the North Prison. A representation of the Mansion, as it appeared in 1847, is given in the splendid volume, titled, "Relics of Ancient Architecture, and other Picturesque Scenes, in Glasgow," embracing a series of water-coloured drawings, with letter-press description, executed at the expense of the late James Bogle, Esq., Dean of Guild, for private circulation.

Sir Matthew Stewart was a stanch Royalist and Episcopalian, and during his first Provostship gave mortal umbrage to the Presbyterian party, by dragging from the pulpit of the Cathedral, by main force, the then Presbyterian minister of Cambuslang, who had attempted to supplant Archbishop Montgomerie, newly presented to the Cathedral by King James VI., an incident which, in that superstitious age, was said to have caused a "judgment" on Sir Matthew's descendants.*

The next owners of the Craigs successively were Sir Walter Stewart and his son Sir Ludovick. In their days the family fortunes became overclouded and "crumbled away." Sir Walter had to mortgage his property. Thus, on 6th December, 1624, he and his spouse, "Dame Christian Crawford," † executed a Wadset of Easter Craigs to James Gilhagie of Kenniehill, in the vicinity, for 3,000 merks, or £162, 10s., Sterling. The Deed is recorded in the Commissary Court Books of Glasgow, on 4th November, 1657. Mr. Gilhagie, on receiving the Wadset, granted of same date a "Back Set" to Sir Walter of the lands for an annual rent of 300 merks (£16, 5s., Sterling), intended to meet the interest on the loan; but it was declared, as then usual in such cases, that if two years' tack-duty should run on unpaid, the "Back Set" or Tack should expire. Further, on the same date, a Charter of Confirmation of the Wadset was executed by Sir Walter and his spouse in Mr. Gilhagie's favour.

* I have seen the Signature of Sir Matthew, as Provost, to a Deed, dated 10th May, 1593, relative to the purchase by the Town of Glasgow of the Popish Chapel on the north side of Gallowgate, near Great Dovehill, called "Little St. Mungo," for the purposes of an Hospital. He signs, "Mynto, Knt." Two of the Bailies were associated with him, named Robert Chirnside and John Stewart. The writer of that old Deed was the same Robert Herbertson who acted as Notary for Sir Matthew in infefting the latter in Easter Craigs, two years thereafter.

† This lady was the daughter and heiress of James Crawford of Ferm. She was espoused by Sir Walter in the year 1590.

It appears that a "Feu Sett" had been granted by the predecessors of Sir Walter to the Town of Glasgow, of "the mylnes and kilns on Wester Craigs." Accordingly, about the same time that Sir Walter Stewart was mortgaging his other property, he executed a Wadset to the Town of Glasgow for "Sax hundredth pundis" (£50, Sterling) over feu-duties of the same amount payable by the Town for the "mylnes and kilns" now alluded to.

These transactions evince the declining fortunes of this once opulent family. Not only so, but it appears that Sir Walter had fallen into arrear with the interest due to Mr. Gilhagie; for on the 14th December, 1642 (eighteen years after the Wadset or Mortgage), Gilhagie obtained a Decreet of Declarator of Expiry of Redemption, before the Court of Session, against Sir Walter, which gave Gilhagie power to retain Easter Craigs absolutely in satisfaction of the Debt. But he does not appear to have acted harshly, for the property seems to have still been to some extent under the indirect influence of Sir Walter. Probably Mr. Gilhagie just entered into possession of the lands, and paid himself the interest out of the rents levied. At all events, as we shall presently see, the Wadset remained a burden on the lands till 1650, being eight years after the Decreet of Declarator above referred to.

Mr. Gilhagie had a son James, who married Margaret, daughter of the deceased William Wallace of Neilston. In their Contract of Marriage James Gilhagie, the father, conveyed to his son the fee, not only of Easter Craigs, but also of the 30s. land of old extent of Kennichill adjoining. A Charter of Confirmation followed on this Marriage Contract, dated 31st December, 1663.

At length Sir Ludovick Stewart, who had succeeded his father, seems to have been under the necessity of parting entirely with both Wester and Easter Craigs.* By a Disposition, dated 1st February, 1650, he sold both these properties to "the Merchants Hospital, for 23,250 merks, usual money "of Scotland," or £1,291, 13s. 4d., Sterling. In the Clause of Warrantice both the Wadsets to Gilhagie and to the Town are expressly excepted. In alluding to these, the former is spoken of as "ane Wadset for 3,000 merks" granted "severalls zeirs syne to and in favours of James Gilhagie of Kenerhill," which is to be paid off out of the price. The other Wadset is stated to be for "Sax hundredth pundis, to the Towne of Glasgow," by Sir Walter, over the feu-duties of the same amount payable to him under "a Feu Sett," by his predecessors to the "said Burgh," of the "mylnes and kills," the right of reversion to which, Sir Ludovick gave up to the Town.†

* Sir Ludovick married Lady Elizabeth Cunningham, daughter of William, eighth Earl of Glencairn.

† This explains a foot-note in M'Ure's History, p. 210 (M'Vean's Edition), where a Charter is stated to have been granted, in 1650, by Sir Walter and Sir Ludovick, of these feu-duties for the use

The following is the description of the lands, taken from the original Deed by Sir Ludovick:—"All and Hail the Landis of Eister Craigis, with houses, biggins, zairdis, toftis, croftis, and utheris pairts, pendicles, and pertinents of the same whatsoever" (two or three words here illegible), "Baronie Kirk of Glasgow, and Shirefdome of Lanark; and als, All and Hail the landis of Wester Craigis, lyand neir to the Bridge of Glasgow,* with houses, biggins, zairdis, infield, outfield, and all uther pairts, pendicles, and pertinents thereof, lyand within the parochine and Sherifdome respective foresaid."

From this curious old Deed, likewise, a glimpse is obtained of the names of the tenants, and the rents, of Easter and Wester Craigs, more than two hundred years ago. The Clause of Warrantice excepts the current leases, the particulars whereof are given. Thus, the tenants of "Eister Craigis" are stated to be "John Hills, elder and younger, and John Jackson;" and of Wester Craigs, John Smellie, Walter Neilson, and John Neilson. The tack of the Hills embraced one-half of Easter Craigs; the term was nineteen years; and the rent 250 merks (£13, 10s. 10d., Sterling), "sax caponis (capons), and sax henis (hens), and ane boll horse corne," or "ten schillings for ilk capoune, and sax schillingis, aught pennies, for ilk hene, yeirlie." Jackson's lease included the other half of Eister Craigs, and had the same currency and rent. The date of these tacks is 22nd January, 1648,—one year previous to the execution of Charles I. Wester Craigs was possessed thus:—John Smellie's tack was of the same date and duration as the previous two. It embraced the whole of Wester Craigs except "that aiker called the Boge (bog) aiker, and twa ither aikers;" the rent was 420 merks (£22, 15s., Sterling), with "twell caponis and twell henis." Walter Neilson rented "twa aikers of land lyand neist Robert Paterson's kill," rent not mentioned, of which tack seventeen years were to run. John Neilson had "ane uthir acre," rent, "twentie pundis a yeir;" (£1, 13s. 4d., Sterling), also for seventeen years. The date of these tacks is 12th

of the Ministers in the New Kirk as one part of their Stipend, &c. No doubt this form of squaring off the Mortgage to the Town was considered best in the circumstances.

* This allusion to "the Bridge of Glasgow" appears to have been a clerical mistake. The only bridge then deserving such a designation was Bishop Rae's great bridge over the Clyde at the bottom of Stockwell. In old Deeds of nearly the same date, connected with property in the immediate vicinity, I have seen allusion made to "the Drygait Bridge of Glasgow." This was a small bridge of two arches over the Molendinar, just at the bottom of Wester Craigs, and is noticed by M'Ure, page 124 (M'Vean's Edition). It is not improbable that this was intended to have been expressed in Sir Ludovick's Conveyance, but that the word "Drygait" had been accidentally left out by the transcribing Clerk. Some of the old conveyancers were careless in describing boundaries.

August, 1649. The total rental appears thus to have been about £41, Sterling, exclusive of the Mills.*

This ancient Conveyance by Sir Ludovick Stewart to the Merchants House was executed during the first year of the Protectorate of Cromwell, and the same in which that astute and able Ruler visited Glasgow, and took up his residence in "Silvercraigs Land," at the bottom of Saltmarket.

I examined the Deed thus quoted from, in 1852, among the old papers of the Merchants House.

The Minto Stewarts, after the date of the last mentioned Instrument, ceased entirely to have connection with either of the Craigs.

But perhaps it is worth while to add a little more regarding a family so long connected with these lands.

About the time that Sir Ludovick parted with the Craigs, he sold to the Dowager Marchioness of Montrose his grandfather's old town mansion, before alluded to, in the Drygait. His son continued to keep up the title, but had very little left of his ancestor's estates. The wife of this son was a daughter of Sir John Whitefoord of Whitefoord, in Ayrshire. Their only son, Sir John Stewart, was reduced to such penury that Crawford states he was maintained by his cousin, Lord Blantyre. This unlucky young man accompanied the last reinforcement of 1,200 persons which sailed from Rothesay Bay on 14th September, 1699, for the ill-fated Scotch Settlement of New Caledonia, on the Isthmus of Darien, so well-planned by Paterson, but ruined by the heartless and unjust policy of William III.† In what capacity Sir John went out does not appear, but he died on the voyage. He was the last direct male descendant of Sir Matthew Stewart of the Craigs.

The patrimonial estate of Minto was purchased by the second son of Walter Riddell of Newhouse, whose daughters and co-heiresses sold it, before the Union, to Sir Gilbert Elliot, one of the Judges of the Court of Session, who took from it his judicial title of Lord Minto, as did also his son, both eminent lawyers. A descendant of Sir Gilbert was raised to the Peerage in 1797 as Baron Minto of Minto, and the present Earldom was created in 1813.

* Four of these quaint old leases, themselves, are preserved in the Charter Chest of the Merchants House

† The Merchants House held £1,000 of the Darien Stock.

The ledgers and other books and papers connected with this unlucky Company are preserved in the Advocates' Library. The letters, in particular, are full of interest, and the books have been beautifully kept.

Darien House, the head-quarters of the Company, is still standing, in melancholy contrast to its original importance. It is near the Bristo Port, Edinburgh, and used as a Pauper Hospital, known in popular parlance as "Bedlam."

But the family of the Minto Stewarts is represented by Lord Blantyre, whose ancestor, Walter Stewart, was the only son of a second marriage which the father of Sir Matthew contracted with a daughter of James Stewart of Cardonald. In other words, Sir Matthew of the Craigs and this Walter were step-brothers. Walter was the early companion of, and brought up with, James VI., under the celebrated George Buchanan, and in after-life received from the king many marks of distinction. Among others, the Priory of Blantyre was conferred upon him, and he was raised to the Peerage in 1606 as Baron of Blantyre. The present Lord is the eleventh Baron in lineal descent from the step-brother of Sir Matthew Stewart of the Craigs.*

* It is an interesting circumstance that one of the descendants of the Minto Stewarts is commemorated on the British coinage. A grand-daughter of the first Lord Blantyre, and consequently grand-niece to Sir Matthew Stewart of Minto, was one of the greatest beauties at the Court of Charles II. Her father, the Hon. Walter Stewart, was a physician in London, and she herself one of the Maids of Honour. The king fell distractedly in love with the charming Stewart, and intended to divorce his uncongenial Portuguese Queen and marry the fair enslaver. Among other extravagances, Charles directed Roettiere, Master of the Mint, to incise on a die an accurate likeness of Miss Stewart, in the character of Minerva, and stamp it on a gold medal, with the king's own bust on the obverse. This was exquisitely done, the more so as the Flemish artist, in the course of studying the lady's features, became himself deeply and hopelessly enamoured, and exerted his utmost skill, in silent token of admiration. A number of these beautiful medals were struck and distributed, some of which are extant. A portrait of Miss Stewart, by Sir Peter Lely, state painter to His Majesty—so successful in female portraiture—is in the collection of the present Duke of Richmond. She is there also represented in the same classic character, with a plume of feathers on the helmet. The countenance is faultless, and fully confirms all that has been recorded regarding her exquisite beauty. The features very much resemble those of another fair Stewart—the lovely and much-injured Mary Queen of Scots.

But this was not all. Charles resolved to perpetuate Miss Stewart's face and figure on an entirely new sort of coinage, which he intended to put into circulation. This was the penny and half-penny in copper. The penny is one of the oldest English coins, reaching back to the Heptarchy; but down to the time of Charles II. it was invariably of silver. Originally the silver penny had the sacred symbol of the cross deeply incised on its reverse. In the Mint, quantities of this coin were broken, partly into halves and partly into fourths, which the lines of deep incision on it rendered easy. These halves were called "half-pennies," and the quarters "fourth-things," corrupted into farthings. It was not till the time of Edward III. that silver half-pence and farthings were coined independently, and the old angular fractions abandoned. Both kinds are very small, the disc scarcely exceeding the size of an ordinary bead. Copper coins had never been thought of till the times of Elizabeth and Cromwell; but although both that Queen and the Protector had ordered specimens to be minted, they were never put into circulation. The coinage was greatly debased—lead, tin, and even porcelain tokens were in use, especially for minor purposes. It was reserved for the kingly admirer of Miss Stewart to introduce a copper coinage, and thereby to gratify his whim of stamping her likeness upon it. Accordingly, copper pence and half-pence first appeared in 1665, with Miss Stewart represented on the reverse as Minerva, and the single word "Britannia" engraved underneath. This idea was borrowed from the Great Brass of several of the Roman Emperors, who symbolized the Genius of Britain, after its subjugation to their arms, by a female figure, unhelmeted, sitting on the rocks, with "Britannia" on the exergue; but it had never been adopted by any of the insular monarchs till Charles. The symbol has been continued ever since his reign, with little

It would appear that the Merchants House parted with Easter Craigs at no distant period after their purchase, in 1650, from Sir Ludovick Stewart. For, by the year 1700, James Gilhagie, son of the Creditor in the Wadset before referred to, was owner of that property.

But although the Merchants House appears thus to have been divested of Easter Craigs, yet, as these lands formed part of the early investments of the House, probably it is not undesirable to continue their history.

The Gilhagies were at one time Merchants of opulence, but, like the Mynto family, became embarrassed. In one of the Scots Acts of Parliament, dated 1698, a sad picture is given of the situation of James Gilhagie, then owner of Easter Craigs and Kenniehill. He had applied to the Scots Parliament for relief, and his losses are embodied in the Act. These give us some idea of the very considerable range of his mercantile and other transactions, as well as his property, in times so distant. The Act states that by the great fire in 1677, which consumed nearly the whole of Saltmarket and portions of the adjoining streets, all Mr. Gilhagie's houses there had been destroyed, "with his plenishing in them, and his two well-furnisht buiths (shops) and merchant ware, causing a loss of 20,000 Merks" (£1,083, 8s., Sterling). One of his ships, the same year, laden with French wines, was wrecked on the West Coast of Ireland, causing a further loss of £500, Sterling. He also lost largely by the failure of adventures which he had made from Glasgow to Archangel, Madeira, and the Canary Islands; "and that since, he had lost 20,000 Merks more, by his Coal Works, near Glasgow;* by all which, and the rigidity of severalls of his Creditors, by "Captions, &c., he is deprieved of all means of industry for subsistence of himself and his familie, who are in very sad circumstances at present," &c. This was in the time of King William III.

The consequence of all these embarrassments was that a process of Ranking and Sale was instituted against him and his Estates, at the instance of John Crawford and others, Creditors of James Gilhagie and his son John, in which Judgment was pronounced by the Court of Session, on 9th July, 1700, and a Decreet of Sale of Easter Craigs and Kenniehill issued on 10th September, 1701, in favour of Hugh Wallace, Merchant in Glasgow. He obtained a Charter under the Great Seal on 24th February,

alteration, on our copper coinage; so that, when we look upon this now favourite emblem, we are in fact regarding the figure of the beautiful Frances Theresa Stewart, whose name must ever be associated with the Britannia on these useful money pieces.

But, notwithstanding all these and other flatteries, Miss Stewart repulsed the king, and married an equally ardent admirer, the sixth Duke of Richmond. She long survived her husband, and died, childless, in October, 1702.

* These Coal Works were on Gateside, immediately to the north-east of Wester Camlachie, and originally formed part of the lands of Kenniehill.

and was infeft on 26th April, 1707, the Instrument being recorded on 5th May following.

After retaining possession of Easter Craigs ten years, Mr. Wallace sold these Lands, on 14th March, 1717, to Messrs. John Graham of Dougalston and William Anderson, Merchant in Glasgow. This Mr. Graham was the gentleman after whom is named the Suburb of Grahamston. His eldest son, also called John, was served heir to his father, before the Magistrates of Glasgow, on 12th January, 1722, and, in conjunction with Mr. Anderson, the Co-proprietor, sold Easter Craigs to William Gilhagie, Merchant in Glasgow, a relative of the former owner, of the same surname. The date of the Conveyance is 22nd and 23rd October, 1722, and the Deed is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow on 5th November following. This William Gilhagie married Miss Agnes Anderson, a daughter of Mr. Anderson above referred to.* He borrowed £10,000 Scots (£833, 4s., Sterling) from the Merchants House about the time he completed his Title, and granted an heritable Bond for this sum, with an annual rent of £500 Scots (£27, 1s. 8d., Sterling) over both Easter Craigs and Kenniehill, the latter of which properties he had also purchased. This Mortgage is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 15th April, 1731.

William Gilhagie had three daughters—Misses Jean, Agnes, and Margaret. On 26th November, 1725, he executed a personal Bond of provision in their favour, in certain proportions, for in all 13,000 Merks (£704, 3s. 4d., Sterling). It is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 18th November, 1730. It was written by Mr. John Sym, Writer in Glasgow, who resided in

* Another daughter of this Mr. Anderson, named Janet, was the third wife of the first of the three John Walkinshaws of Barrowfield. Mr. Walkinshaw was twice Dean of Guild—viz., in 1667 and 1672. By the Marriage Contract he undertook to invest a certain sum for behoof of “the aires and hairns,” and in fulfilment he purchased, in 1669, the lands of Wester Camlachie, adjoining his father-in-law’s properties of Easter Craigs and Kenniehill. The quaint old Conveyance is preserved in the Barrowfield Charter Chest. There was, however, no issue of that marriage, and both Camlachie and Barrowfield became the property of his son John by the second wife, “Agnes Faulles.” This son married a daughter of Principal Baillie; and their son, the third and last John Walkinshaw of Barrowfield and Camlachie, who was uncle to Lord Kames, espoused Katherine, one of the daughters of Sir Hugh Paterson, of Bannockburn, Bart., and thence commonly called “Lady Barrowfield.” By her he had ten daughters, the youngest of whom, Clementina, born in Rome, was said in Jacobite times to have been the Mistress—but perhaps rather the wife—of Prince Charles Edward Stuart. She was created by the King of France la Comtesse d’Alberstrof, and was one of the most beautiful women of her time; so was her daughter, the accomplished Charlotte Stuart, Duchess of Albany, commemorated as “the bonnie lass of Albany” by Robert Burns. A miniature of her, which belonged to her uncle, the Cardinal, is now in the possession of the Countess of Seafield. There are reasons for believing that Clementina was a much injured lady. She died at Fribourg, in Switzerland, at an advanced age, in November, 1802, leaving a Will written in French, and deposited in the archives of that Canton. I have examined a copy, extracted from the Register and authenticated by a Swiss Notary. She was interred in the Cathedral of St. Nicolas, Fribourg.

the Gallowgait, and was maternal great-grandfather of Professor Wilson, the far-famed Editor of "Blackwood's Magazine." The ladies were in minority when their father executed this provision in their favour. He died soon after, and was succeeded by his son John, in 1733. By this time two of his sisters were married. The second eldest, Miss Agnes Gilhagie, married Mr. Robert Grahame, Merchant in Glasgow—grand-parents, I believe, of the late well-known Robert Grahame, Esq. of Whitehill. The youngest sister, Miss Margaret Gilhagie, espoused Mr. Walter Buchanan, Maltman in Glasgow, one of the founders of the "Buchanan Society," in 1725—the oldest of the Charitable Institutions of this city, except Hutchesons' Hospital. His name stands fourth from the top of the old Roll of Members.

Soon after his father's death, Mr. John Gilhagie, then of Easter Craigs and Kenniehill, executed an Heritable Bond in favour of his three sisters, corroborating the Personal Bond by their deceased father; and for security he mortgaged to them both these properties. The date of the Mortgage is 8th June, 1734, and the Deed is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow, 12th October, 1737. The ladies were infeft on 17th June, 1734, and the Instrument recorded the day following.

While Mr. John Gilhagie was owner of Easter Craigs he had a dispute with the Town of Glasgow, in consequence of their Mill-dam, on the north flank of Wester Craigs, overflowing some of his adjoining parks in rainy weather, when the Molendinar became swollen.

The matter was referred to the friendly arbitrament of Mr. John Graham of Dougalston and Mr. James Hamilton of Aikenhead. I have perused the Decreet Arbitral by these gentlemen, which is characterized by much good sense, fairness, and an uncommonly shrewd view of the question. These ancient Arbiters, while not quite white-washing Mr. Gilhagie, awarded him damages to the extent of £31, 10s. The date of their decision is 5th March, 1735, and the Decreet itself is recorded in the Town Court Books of Glasgow the next day.

But this was not Mr. Gilhagie's sole difficulty. A far more serious one arose with the Merchants House. They wished payment of the large Bond by his father, over Easter Craigs and Kenniehill, and instituted proceedings with the view of adjudging these lands—a tedious and expensive mode of realizing heritable debts, in times when the Bankrupt Law of Scotland was in a very unsatisfactory state. The House obtained a Decreet of Adjudication against Mr. Gilhagie on 4th July, 1733; and matters were *in extremis* when Mr. William Anderson, senior, the uncle of Mr. Gilhagie, purchased the Debt from the House, and took a Conveyance of it and the Diligences on 8th October, 1734.

In the year following, Mr. John Gilhagie sold to his uncle, Mr. William Anderson, senior, both Easter Craigs and Kenniehill, and at same time arranged with his sisters for the discharge of their Father's Provision in their favour, and his own Corroborative Bond.

The Conveyance to Mr. Anderson, and the Discharge by the three sisters, with consent of Mr. Graham and Mr. Buchanan, the husbands of two of them, are dated 1st June, 1738, the latter Deed being recorded at Glasgow the same day.

Mr. Anderson was infeft four days later, and the Instrument recorded on 5th June.

Thenceforth the old name of Gilhagie drops out of the list of Proprietors of Easter Craigs *in cumulo*, although, as will be seen in the sequel, the three ladies, by themselves or their husbands, acquired certain portions.

Hitherto Easter Craigs had passed from Proprietor to Proprietor successively as one undivided Estate. But Mr. William Anderson, senior, split it, and disposed of considerable portions among various parties. Thus, one subdivision, called Cullochfauld, was disposed by him to Miss Jean Gilhagie, the eldest unmarried sister of John Gilhagie, on 1st June, 1738.

About the same time also, Mr. Anderson conveyed to Mr. Robert Grahame, Merchant, husband of Miss Agnes Gilhagie, another subdivision, called "Whitehill," or "West Park," which became a place of no small celebrity. A third, designated "Meadow Park," lying immediately to the east of Whitehill Park, was disposed by Mr. Anderson to Mr. Walter Buchanan, husband of Margaret, the youngest Miss Gilhagie, both already referred to.

Mr. William Anderson having died, his eldest son James, a merchant, succeeded to the undisposed portions of Easter Craigs. He had a Charter under the Great Seal, dated 12th February, and registered 14th April, 1741, on which infeftment followed the 27th of that month, the Instrument being recorded 27th May following.

Mr. James Anderson did not retain the lands much above four years; but, at the outbreak of the Rebellion, he conveyed Easter Craigs, as well as Kenniehill (excepting what his father had feued or sold), to his younger brother William, a merchant of some note. He was one of the Bailies of Glasgow in 1713. In old papers connected with this and other properties belonging to him, this William Anderson is generally designated as having been "late one of the Bailies of Glasgow," to distinguish him from his father, of the same Christian name, who, we have seen, purchased the lands from John Gilhagie.

Bailie William Anderson followed up his father's plan of selling off the remaining subdivision of Easter Craigs. This he did in one lot on 27th

November, 1752, to the Incorporation of Fleshers. The price was £900, Sterling. The Incorporation was infeft on 12th, and the Sasine recorded 17th March, 1753. In this Conveyance Bailie Anderson specially excepts Cullochfauld, Whitehill or West Park, and Meadow Park, as already disposed of.

Hitherto Easter Craigs had been occupied merely for grazing and farming purposes. But this property was now destined to be transformed into ornamental grounds, and to become the country retreat of some of the most distinguished and opulent merchants in Glasgow.

The first start in this transformation was the purchase, soon after the Rebellion, of Whitehill Park from Mr. Robert Grahame, Merchant, by the celebrated John Glassford, Esq. This gentleman was one of four who laid the foundation of the commercial greatness of Glasgow. He was a principal importer of tobacco from Virginia and other provinces in British Colonial America. He was also one of the Virginia Dons of Scarlet Cloak notoriety, so well known in old Glasgow story. Smollet has commemorated him in Humphry Clinker. Mr. Glassford was likewise one of the original and principal partners of the Glasgow Arms Bank, which commenced in 1750, in the Bridgegate, then the chief business Street of the City, and in which the Merchants House was situated, the spire being now the Briggate Steeple. He was, moreover, a chief partner of the Glasgow Tanwork Company, then perhaps the largest in Europe; the principal partner of the original concern of the Cudbear Works, under the firm of John Glassford & Co.; of the Pollokshaws Dye Works Co., in conjunction with Provost Ingram and others; and he was a leading partner in the aristocratic Thistle Bank, patronized chiefly by the West India Merchants, which merged into the Union Bank of Scotland in 1836; besides various other enterprises.*

Soon after the first American War broke out, tobacco rose one thousand

* Mr. Glassford possessed much energy of character. One instance from many may be cited. In 1739 he rode all the way from Glasgow to London on horseback. He was accompanied by Mr. Andrew Thomson, senior, of Faskin, who afterwards founded the banking-house in Glasgow of Messrs. Andrew, George, and Andrew Thomson, the partners of which were himself and his two sons. This London journey had some curious features. There was no turnpike road till Mr. Glassford and Mr. Thomson reached Grantham, within 110 miles of the metropolis. Up to that point they rode on a narrow causeway (perhaps the ancient Roman *Iter*), with an unmade soft road on each side of it. They met from time to time strings of pack-horses, from thirty to forty in a gang, the mode by which goods were usually transported from one part of the country to another. The leading horse of the gang carried a bell, to give warning to travellers coming in an opposite direction; and as the causeway was not broad enough to allow the Glasgow riders to pass the others with the packs across their backs, the former had to leave the causeway and plunge into the miry side road, from which they sometimes found it difficult to extricate themselves. [Vide Cleland's "Statistical Tables, 1832," p. 156, quoting from Mr. Dugald Bannatyne's "Scrap Book."]



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per cent.; and Mr. Glassford, with some other large holders, made enormous fortunes, in the midst of the crash which that impolitic and grossly mismanaged contest produced in this country.

Such was the princely merchant who became Proprietor of that part of Easter Craigs called Whitehill, about the middle of last century. This subdivision was part of the westmost section of Easter Craigs, and bounded on the south by the ancient Carntyne Lone. He found it, however, rather circumscribed, and acquired a portion of Wester Craigs, flanking Whitehill Park. Mr. Glassford enclosed the whole with stone walls, formed fine gardens with hot-houses, ornamental walks, and other accessories to a gentleman's country residence, and erected the mansion still existing, the whole being designated "Whitehill." Subsequent owners made additions to the edifice, but the principal and centre portion was built by Mr. Glassford. This fine old house is now the best specimen remaining around Glasgow of the style of residences of the far-famed Virginia Merchants of last century. A drawing of it, taken from the edifice as it now stands, forms one of the illustrations of the present Volume.

In order also to secure the amenity of Whitehill on the south, Mr. Glassford purchased a group of small fields which faced Whitehill along the south side of Carntyne Lone. These form part of "Over Gallowmuir," and lie within the territory of the Burgh, in contradistinction to the Craigs, which are immediately beyond it.

Mr. Glassford resided about twelve years at Whitehill, dispensing princely hospitality. But having purchased from William M'Dowall, Esq. of Garthland, at the price of 1,700 Guineas, the splendid edifice of "the Shawfield Mansion," which stood across what is now the south end of Glassford Street, and faced Stockwell, with the extensive gardens behind, reaching north to what is now Ingram Street, then known as "the Back Cow Lone," uncausewayed and unflagged, Mr. Glassford sold Whitehill, as well as the Gallowmuir-acres, to John Wallace, Esq. of Neilstonside, and Cessnock, on 14th December, 1759, and took up his town residence in his newly acquired property. He became also the purchaser of Dougalston Estate, and thenceforth took his title after that property.

Finally, of Mr. Glassford it may be said, that he was one of those men of whom this now great City has reason to be proud,—of enlarged mercantile views, liberal disposition, and eminently successful in opening many avenues to remunerative business enterprise. Glassford Street, which was formed through the gardens of the Shawfield Mansion after his death, perpetuates his name on the *solum* of his favourite abode, where he died on 27th August, 1783, at the age of sixty-eight.*

* This eminent Glasgow Merchant was thrice married. I am uncertain as to the name of his first wife. The second was a daughter of Sir John Nisbet of Dean, Bart. The third was daughter

John Wallace, Esq., who purchased Whitehill, was another extensive Virginia Merchant, and possessed large West Indian Estates. He represented the male line of Sir William Wallace, the Scottish patriot. The late well-known Robert Wallace, Esq., M.P. for Greenock, was one of the younger sons of the new owner of Whitehill, and I rather think was born there.

Mr. John Wallace made considerable additions to the House of Whitehill,* and purchased all the subdivisions of Easter Craigs already referred to, so as to re-unite the whole, as in the days of the Gilhagies and Andersons.

Thus he made the following acquisitions:—

1st. CULLOCHFAULD.—The Proprietress of this subdivision in 1738 was, as we have seen, Miss Jean Gilhagie. She became the wife of Mr. George Bogle, Merchant, Glasgow. By their Contract of Marriage, dated 1st February, 1746, she conveyed to her husband her property of Cullochfauld. He was infeft 21st, and the Sasine registered the 26th October, 1747. A Charter of Confirmation by Bailie William Anderson, as Superior, in favour of Mr. Bogle, was executed on 21st October same year. Mr. George Bogle was three times Dean of Guild—viz., in 1741, 1745, and 1749. He was succeeded in Cullochfauld by his son Robert, *circa* 1753, and he again by his two sisters, a very few months after. Their names were "Isobel" and "Betty." They were infeft on the 27th, and the Instrument registered 29th November, 1753. Isobel became the wife of Mr. Neil Bannatyne, Merchant, Glasgow. On 21st January, 1760, these ladies, with consent of their mother, Mrs. Jean Gilhagie or Bogle, sold Cullochfauld to Mr. John Wallace. The price was £452, 12s., Sterling. He was infeft on the 2nd, and the Sasine registered the 5th of March following.

2nd. The subdivision of Easter Craigs belonging to the Incorporation of Fleshers was purchased from them by Mr. Wallace, on 27th January, 1769, at the price of £1,900, Sterling. He was infeft 27th January, and the Sasine recorded at Glasgow, 11th February, 1769.

3rd. Meadow Park was purchased by Mr. Wallace, from Mr. Buchanan, about the same time.

of the last Earl of Cromarty. By these he had several sons and daughters. One of the latter was married in 1804 to Mr. William Simpson, of Parsons Green, Cashier of the Royal Bank, Edinburgh. Mr. Glassford and greater part of his family were interred in "the Ramshorn," now St. David's Church yard, as recorded on the lengthy inscription on the wall-slab at the tomb next the west gate.

* These additions embraced, I think, the two wings. At any rate, the latter are somewhat newer in point of architecture than the original centre portion of the edifice, though the whole are more than 100 years old. This is proved by Barrie's Survey Map of 1766, already referred to, where Whitehill House is shown with precisely the same general outline as at the present time. Mr. Wallace had then been proprietor about seven years.

Thus the whole of Easter Craigs became re-united in Mr. Wallace, under the general descriptive name of Whitehill.

In order also to have a more convenient approach to the House of Whitehill, from the centre of business at the Cross, than by the circuitous route up High Street, through the Drygait, and along the Carntyne Lone, Mr. Wallace formed a paved "Coach Road" across his fields on Gallowmuir, south to the line of the Gallowgate, and built Lodges at the north and south ends of this private Carriage Road. All there now is completely changed, but the southmost Lodge still exists as a conspicuous landmark on Eastern Gallowgate Road, of a square form, two storeys in height, with the peculiar steep-pitched pavilion roof of the olden time, and rejoicing in the somewhat grotesque name of "Mount Hooley."

I have said that Mr. John Wallace was an extensive merchant. He was a partner of Messrs. Somerville, Gordon, & Co., American Merchants in Glasgow,* and was owner of three Sugar Estates in Jamaica, named respectively "Glasgow," "Cessnock," and "Biscany." He was also a principal partner of the extensive concern known as "The King Street Sugar House," which stood at the south-west corner of Princes Street, but long ago demolished.

Moreover, Mr. Wallace was Proprietor of the Estates of Neilstonside, in Renfrewshire; Cessnock, in the parish of Galston, Ayrshire; and Kelly, at Weinyss Bay.† He was a gentleman of much sagacity and experience,—a fitting successor in Whitehill to Mr. Glassford. Mr. Wallace had the singular whim of wearing a white night-cap under his cocked hat, instead of a wig. He is represented in this costume in a curious print by Kay, titled, "The Morning Walk," which appeared in 1793, and includes a group of other well-known Glasgow characters, viz.:—"Bob Dragon," David Dale (the first Agent in Glasgow of the Royal Bank, in the High Street), "Lawrie Coulter" (who considered himself the wisest man in Glasgow), and a Recruiting Officer. I have conversed with people who knew all these individuals; and they recognized the likenesses as strikingly correct. A reprint may be seen in "Stewart's Views and Notices of Glasgow in Former Times."

* The celebrated Major-General Sir Thomas Munro, Governor of Madras, son of an American Merchant in Glasgow, entered, in 1777, the counting-house of the firm in the text, having been originally destined to mercantile pursuits; but in consequence of events he relinquished business and entered the Service of the East India Company as a Cadet in 1779. His brilliant career is well known.

† Mr. Wallace sold Cessnock, in 1787, to the Trustees of Miss Scott, afterwards Duchess of Portland, and purchased Kelly in 1792, which descended to his son, Robert Wallace, Esq., M.P. for Greenock, so well known in Glasgow for his advocacy of Post Office Reform, and who had much to do with the introduction of that great national boon, the uniform penny postage, &c., &c. This latter amiable gentleman died at Skipness Castle, 1st April, 1851, aged 82. His lady, who predeceased him, was a daughter of Sir William Forbes, Bart.

Mr. Wallace remained proprietor of Whitehill twenty-three years. On 24th September, 1782, he sold the whole to Nathaniel Gordon, Esq., "late Merchant in London," who was infeft on the 3rd, and the Instrument registered on the 7th of October following.*

It was during the ownership of Mr. Gordon that the line of the Cumbernauld Road past Hogganfield Loch to Eastern Duke Street, *via* the present Drygait Toll, as already explained, was formed. There had previously been a very old narrow "lone," of a peculiarly zig-zag character, leading up from the Carntyne Road to Haghill and Kenniehill, which was abolished when the new line, now alluded to, was formed along the eastern skirts of Easter Craigs, or Whitehill.

Mr. Nathaniel Gordon was succeeded in Whitehill Estate by his son, Mr. John Gordon, who made up a Title by Precept of *Clare Constat*, in 1793.†

Mr. Gordon was at this time also proprietor of Kenniehill. During his ownership the Whitehill Estate was split into two, and sold by him; thus,—

1st. Whitehill House, and about 30 acres adjoining, were sold by Mr. John Gordon to Mr. Robert Grahame, Writer, who thus became possessed of that portion of Easter Craigs which had been the property of his paternal grandfather and namesake many years before.‡ The date of the formal Conveyance

* Mr. John Wallace died at Kelly, 4th January, 1805.

† Mr. Nathaniel Gordon's eldest daughter married James Corbett, Esq. of Tollcross, whose ancestors were proprietors of that fine estate several centuries.

‡ This eminent lawyer was the son of Mr. Thomas Grahame, who entered the Faculty of Procurators so far back as 1751. Sometime after, Mr. Grahame, sen., assumed as a partner his son-in-law, Mr. Archibald Grahame, who had joined the Faculty in 1772. The firm was Thomas and Archibald Grahame, and it continued till 12th March, 1781, when the latter was appointed Cashier of the Thistle Bank—an office which he held till his death, on 13th April, 1806. In the early part of 1781 Mr. Robert Grahame, alluded to in the text, entered the Faculty, and in the autumn of that year was taken into partnership by his father, under the firm of Thomas and Robert Grahame. It existed till the death of Mr. Thomas Grahame, on 29th May, 1791, at the age of 60. Mr. Robert Grahame then carried on the business individually till about 1802, when he assumed as a partner Mr. Andrew Mitchell, who had been trained by him, under the firm of Grahame & Mitchell, so long known and so highly respected. Mr. Grahame was the first Lord Provost of Glasgow after the passing of the Reform Bill. After many years he retired from the profession, and died at Hatton Hall, Northamptonshire, on 28th December, 1851, aged 93. The business is continued by worthy successors, Messrs. Mitchell, Allardice, & Mitchell, the premier of which is James Mitchell, Esq., present Dean of Faculty. Thus the business of this eminent House has been in existence one hundred and sixteen years, and is the oldest in Glasgow except one. That exception is Messrs. Hill, Davidson, & Horgan, the business of that also highly respectable firm having originated with Mr. James Hill, sen., as far back as 1740; whose son during an extended period was the Dean of Faculty; whose grandson, Laurence Hill, LL.D., for many years continued the business; and whose great-grandson is the amiable compiler of the present History of the Merchants House. It is further interesting to record, that Messrs. Hill have been continuously clerks to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons since 1757, embracing 109 years; and

by Mr. Gordon to Mr. Grahame, is 27th February, 1802; but it states that Missives of Sale had passed between them as far back as 1797. In farther corroboration of this, Mr. Gordon is designated in the Conveyance as, "*late of Whitehill, now of Kenniehill, residing in Hamilton.*" Mr. Grahame took infestment on 14th June, and the Instrument is recorded in the Local Register, 17th July, 1804.

2nd. The lands of Cullochfauld, formerly alluded to, and a considerable range of Easter Craigs, both lying adjoining Mr. Grahame's purchase, were sold by Mr. John Gordon to Mr. James M'Kenzie, Merchant in Glasgow. The Disposition is dated 10th November, 1798.

Mr. M'Kenzie was a class-fellow, in the Glasgow Grammar School, with the gallant Sir John Moore, and was trained to business in the counting-house of Mr. Glassford. He became an eminent and highly respected merchant, and was elected Lord Provost in 1806.

On his newly acquired property Mr. M'Kenzie built an elegant mansion, still extant. The grounds reached to the northern and to the eastern extremities of Easter Craigs, and were interspersed with clumps and belts of ornamental planting. There were three Porter Lodges. The chief gateway was on the west side of the property, entering off an old road on Wester Craigs, called "Ark Lone." This was the access by way of Eastern Duke Street. A second Gate and Lodge were at the old "Townmill Road;" and a third on the Cumbernauld Road, nearly opposite Haghill Brewery. Mr. M'Kenzie gave the new name of "Craig Park" to this fine property, and resided there till his death, on 13th June, 1838.

Reverting to Whitehill House and Grounds, Mr. Grahame continued to reside there a great number of years, and made many improvements on this fine old place. To add to the amenity of Whitehill, he purchased upwards of three additional acres of Wester Craigs, lying along his west march. On the other hand, he sold that part of Easter Craigs formerly called "the middle" or "Meadow Park," consisting of about eight acres, and a part of what had been the "original old garden," measuring about one and a half acres more, to Mr. James Carrick, Merchant in Glasgow. The date of this transaction was 14th June, 1804. Mr. Grahame was very desirous to preserve the amenity of the House of Whitehill from anything likely to be offensive to the occupiers of that

that they held the important office of Collectors of the Merchants House 70 years, viz, from 1767 till 1837, when the collectorship and clerkship were combined, and a gentleman appointed to devote his whole time to the duties. Indeed, one of Mr. Hill's ancestors was not only a lawyer in extensive practice in Glasgow upwards of 230 years ago, but was the first banker in this city. I allude to Mr. George Hutcheson, one of the benevolent Founders of Hutchesons' Hospital, who died in 1639.

mansion; and among other stringent conditions inserted in the Deed of Conveyance, Mr. Grahame took Mr. Carrick bound "to plant and maintain in "all time coming a thick and close belt of trees and tall shrubs all along the "west march of the lands hereby disposed, in order to form a screen betwixt "him and me." The breadth of the belt was to be at least twelve feet, for the distance of two hundred feet upwards from the highway (where most distant from Whitehill House), and above that, twenty-four feet. This was to shut out Meadow Park grounds, and any house to be erected thereon, from the windows of Mr. Graham's aristocratic mansion. Moreover, Mr. Carrick was not to have power to lop the branches off the Whitehill side of the belt of planting, so that a luxuriant leafy screen should always meet the eye there, from Whitehill grounds.

Mr. Carrick built a handsome edifice on Meadow Park, retaining that old name on the property, and residing there till his death, on 15th August, 1814. It was sold in May following by his sons, who composed the once well-known firm of Messrs. James, Alexander, and Robert Carrick, Merchants in Glasgow, to Mr. John Young, late of Jamaica, at the price of £5,100. Mr. Young died in 1827 at Meadow Park, and in 1844 his Testamentary Trustees sold the property to Mr. John Reid, Merchant, a gentleman more particularly alluded to in the sequel as an extensive proprietor and improver of the eastern district.

Thus old Easter Craigs was re-split into three separate proprietorships—Whitehill, Craig Park, and Meadow Park—and in that state continued down till recent times. The later history will be briefly sketched, after disposing of Wester Craigs, which has now become so much interlaced with its old neighbour.

With respect to Wester Craigs, there seems to have been, from immemorial time, a Cornmill, and Kilns for preparing grain, on the north flank of that property. The millwheel was driven by the Molendinar Burn, which, escaping from Hogganfield Loch, runs past the north and west sides of Wester Craigs in its tortuous course through a portion of the old City towards the Clyde. An ancient road to this Cornmill crosses Wester Craigs from south to north, striking off the old Carntyne highway at a point nearly opposite the north end of modern Sydney Street, and passing Golfhill Lodge. This droll-looking servitude road, part of which now runs between high walls, is popularly called "Ark Lone." It derived this name from an ancient cluster of curiously-shaped houses on the roadside, supposed to resemble an ark, and in which a brewery was for immemorial time carried on. In very old papers, however, the road is alluded to simply as "the common lone." Its southern half has been widened and made subservient as an access to several of the Villas now on Wester

Craigs. It will be remembered that the Mill and Kiln are spoken of 300 years ago, in the Feu-Charter of 27th July, 1564, by the Bishop of Lismore, to Alexander Stewart, as pertinents of, and conveyed with, the lands of Wester Craigs.

The feu-duties payable to the owners of these lands for the *solum* of the Mill were, however, relinquished, as formerly mentioned, by Sir Ludovick Stewart, in 1650, to the Town of Glasgow, which had lent him or his predecessors a sum corresponding to their value.

Soon after the Merchants House became Proprietors of Wester Craigs the Directors proceeded to subdivide that property into "Parks," or fields, enclosing these with drystone dykes and quickset hedges. Distinctive names were given to these enclosures, such as "The Craigs Park," "Goufhill Park," "Broom Park," "Back-of-the-Brae Park," "Well-acre Park," "Well Park," "Hill Park," "Parkhouse Park," "East Park," &c.

Access to the more easterly portion of these was by an old but now obliterated road which ran northwards along the east march of what is now Dunchattan grounds, and started from the Carntyne highway opposite the north mouth of a very ancient thoroughfare, traditionally said to have been used by the masons engaged in building the Cathedral, and who had to lodge in the then more important town of Rutherglen, as Glasgow could not conveniently give night-accommodation to so many strangers of the mystic tie, being then only a small thatched Village. This old masons' road was popularly known as "the Witch Lone," now amplified into Bellegrove Street.*

It would be tedious and uninteresting to sketch the history of all the subdivisions of Wester Craigs and their owners. But some may be selected.

The first section enclosed was "The Craigs Park," now forming the principal portion of the Necropolis.

M'Ure, the quaint old City chronicler, states,† that Mr. Adam Montgomerie, who was Dean of Guild in 1716-17, caused a stone wall to be built around this park, and "a stately grove of fir trees" to be planted within. The name then became changed to "the Fir Park." In 1804 this park was greatly improved by rooting out many of the decayed trees, planting fine elms, and forming ornamental walks. The name was changed again to "the Merchant's Park," though the more popular one of "the Fir Park" long maintained its hold.

These improvements rendered the place a favourite evening promenade at a time when Botanic Gardens in this part of Scotland were unknown. Military bands from the adjoining Barracks enlivened the scene, and their heart-stirring

* Some further particulars regarding this ancient road, as well as the eastern district generally, will be found in the Writer's contribution to "Glasgow, Past and Present," Vol. III.

† M'Vean's Edition, page 121.

notes awoke echoes from the solemn and grand old Cathedral. The Gate and modest-looking little Lodge were down in the quaint "Lady Lone," or "Lady Well" Street, so called after a fountain at the bottom of the Craigs, sacred in Popish times to the Virgin.

There were two routes to this little unpretending gate of entrance. The most fashionable was by Duke Street and down "the Lady Lone," and there was the agreeable clucking of the wheel of the Sub-Dean Mill to diversify ideas *en passant*. The other route was from the Infirmary esplanade, down the then steep, narrow, ghost-haunted "Kirk Lone," which led past a series of old-fashioned eerie monuments along the Churchyard dyke, with their mort-heads, cross-bones, time-glasses, broken-nosed winged figures in scanty attire, and other depressing objects,—the effect being in no way relieved by numerous rank patches of gaunt black nettles, which hissed and rustled in the mouldy breeze wafted from the dead.

All this seems strange now. The Merchants Park has been transformed to the beautiful Necropolis, the history of which is well known. I shall only add that the first interment there, was of a Jew on 12th September, 1832; and the first Christian burial was that of a female, on 9th February, 1833.

Among the earliest feuars of Wester Craigs from the House were Messrs. William and Robert Donaldson, Merchants. The Feu-Contract is dated 13th May, 1757; but they were in possession some short time previously, perhaps under Missives. The then Dean was Mr. Archibald Ingram—after whom Ingram Street is named. The ground feued to Messrs. Donaldson consisted of "the Well Park," embracing five acres, one of which was called Bog-acre. The feu-duty was £9, 10s., with a grassum of a similar amount at Whitsunday, 1769, and every twenty-seven years thereafter. The House conferred on Messrs. Donaldson full power to collect the water of the several springs on the other adjoining portions of Wester Craigs, at their own cost, "and to convey the same in open or close ditches through the said lands, without molestation or hindrance, for ever." Other feuars were burdened with this servitude in Messrs. Donaldson's favour. Bog-acre afterwards became a Bleachfield. The whole was subsequently acquired by Messrs. John and Robert Tennent, Brewers, and now forms the *solum* of the extensive "Wellpark Brewery," carried on by their successors.

Another early feuar from the Merchants House was Mr. John Finlay, Writer, Glasgow. On the 8th December, 1756, a Feu-Contract was executed between the House and him, whereby he acquired a large range of property. It comprehended,—1st. "A piece of ground (Broompark) bounded by the Goufhill Park, belonging to John Anderson, and the common lone (Ark Lone) on the west; the Butchers' Park (on Easter Craigs) on the east; the Town of Glasgow's Dam and Mill, and lands thereof, on the north; and the Hillpark and Park-

house Park on the south." 2nd. The west half of Hillpark, the other half belonging to John Anderson, and a thorn hedge running between these halves. 3rd. Parkhouse Park "with the barn-yard and barns builded thereon." 4th. "That slate house called the Parkhouse, three little houses to the westward of the same, and two yards at the back thereof," bounded on the south by the highway, and on the east "by the said common lone" (Ark Lone). There is a clause reserving "to Messrs. William and Robert Donaldson, Merchants in Glasgow, proprietors of the Well* Park or Five-acre Park, part of the said lands of Wester Craigs, and their heirs and successors, to collect the water of the several springs in the adjacent lands of Wester Craigs," as already mentioned.

Mr. Finlay had also right to "the half of a seat or room in the Barony Kirk."

Mr. Finlay entered the Faculty of Procurators in 1729, and resided many years in "the slated house" before referred to, called Parkhouse. It stood at the south-west corner of Ark Lone, and faced the Carntyne highway. It had a peculiarly quaint aspect, surrounded by trees, and then considered quite in the country. In the first Glasgow Directory, published by John Tait in 1783, Mr. Finlay is entered as still residing "at Parkhouse." During his long lifetime he feued or sold a variety of pieces of his Wester Craigs property. He appears to have been burdened, by the Feu-Contract of 1756, with a feu-duty of £20, Sterling, payable to the Merchants House annually. The entry of heirs was taxed at £10, and singular successors (purchasers) at £20, Sterling, respectively. Mr. Finlay latterly resided in Bailie Orr's land, north side of Gallowgate.*

In 1777 the firm of Messrs. John Glassford & Co. acquired about three acres and a half of ground at the foot of the Craigs, on which they erected the afterwards well-known Cudbear Works. These were surrounded by a wall ten feet high; and the principle of the manufacture not being then generally known, the place was popularly called "the secret work." Mr. John Glassford, already referred to, was a principal promoter and the leading partner. The others were Messrs. James Gordon, John Robertson, George M'Intosh, and Adam Grant. This acquisition, I rather think, was made by the Cudbear Company from the Merchants House direct.

Seven years later the concern made a further acquisition of ground adjoining. On 26th February, 1784, Mr. Finlay feued off a considerable portion of his Wester Craigs property to Messrs. George M'Intosh & Co. (which firm came in room of John Glassford & Co.), one of the leading partners of which was Mr.

* This was a fine old two-storey house, with projecting garrets, and "self-contained," facing what is now the north end of Charlotte Street. The owner was proprietor of the estate of Barrowfield.

Henry Glassford, son of Mr. John Glassford, then deceased, the old proprietor of Whitehill. One part thus feued consisted of "three parks or enclosings, measuring 3 acres 2 roods and 19 falls." A second portion was, "that park or orchard lying contiguous and to the east of the former, possessed by Duncan M'Arthur." A third, was "that park called the Hill Park," contiguous to, and on the north of, the two parks immediately before described, separated therefrom by a stone dyke, and possessed by the said John Finlay,—measuring 3 acres 1 rood and 11 falls.

The Cudbear Works were on the east side of, and entered from, the old "Ark Lone."

Subsequently Mr. M'Intosh acquired more ground adjoining, and the whole, extending to about seventeen acres, was massed under the general name of Dunchattan, after a place in Ross-shire, of which County he was a native. On a rising ground in the centre of this property Mr. M'Intosh erected the fine old Villa, still existing, known as Dunchattan House.* The Gateway and Porter's Lodge were in Duke Street.

In its prime the Mansion of Dunchattan was a beautiful country retreat. The grounds extended along, and fronted, Eastern Duke Street, from the mouth of "Ark Lone" eastward as far as a point near the north end of Bellegrove Street. Their east march was "Anderson's Parks," noticed in the sequel, from which they were separated by a stone wall. Another high wall ran along Duke Street the whole extent of the grounds. Within were ornamental clumps of trees and shrubbery, intersected by gravelled walks; also a fine garden, with hot-houses, &c.

All, now, is completely changed. Ranges of tenements and several streets occupy the old pleasure grounds. What is called "Dunchattan Street" runs in the line of the original Avenue to the House, and "M'Intosh Street" commemorates the family name in the locality.

The Cudbear Works were demolished only a few years ago, and the ground cleared off for other purposes.

Mr. George M'Intosh married Miss Mary Moore, one of the daughters of the Rev. Charles Moore, Episcopalian clergyman in Stirling. She was the sister of Dr. Moore, author of "Zeluco,"† and aunt of the gallant Sir John Moore,

* In 1785 Mr. George M'Intosh brought from London M. Papillon, who had been a dyer of Turkey or Adrianople red, at Rouen, and, in partnership with Mr. David Dale, established, under the direction of Papillon, a Turkey-red Dyework at Barrowfield, near the bridge. Here Turkey-red was for the first time dyed in Britain. In 1805 they sold the works. This was the origin of the existing large Turkey-red establishment at Barrowfield Bridge. Mr. M'Intosh was also engaged in various other enterprises.

† Smollet was an apprentice to Dr. Moore's partner. The Dispensary was in High Street. Strap, whose real name was Niven, and a volunteer in the Trades' Battalion at the battle of Falkirk,

who fell at Corunna. Her sister was wife of the Rev. Dr. William Porteous, of St. George's Church. It is an interesting circumstance that while Sir John was a young man, he entered the counting-house of his uncle-in-law, Mr. M'Intosh, in order to acquire a knowledge of book-keeping and accounts, which proved of no small service to this admirable soldier in the course of his future military career.

Mr. George M'Intosh resided many years at Dunchattan, and died there on 26th July, 1807. So did his son, the amiable and accomplished Charles M'Intosh, Esq., F.R.S., of Campsie and Dunchattan, on 25th July, 1843. The latter received his early business training in the counting-house of John Glassford, Esq., his father's steady friend. The property now belongs to his son, General Alexander Fisher M'Intosh, Colonel of the 93rd Regiment, or Sutherland Highlanders.*

Reverting to Mr. John Finlay, who originally conveyed the Dunchattan grounds to Messrs. M'Intosh & Co., he died *circa* 1790. His son John, and daughter Lillias (who espoused Mr. Robert Blackwell of Rameth), sold the Lands of Broompark, on 9th November, 1798, to Mr. James Baird of Auchinloch. This property consisted of about 18 acres, and reached to the west march of Easter Craigs, then belonging to John Gordon, Esq. of Whitehill. Its northern boundaries were, the lands belonging to the Town of Glasgow, and John Anderson. Mr. Baird was burdened, as the sellers themselves had been, "with a servitude through the lands, of the water-pipe to the Barracks of Glasgow."†

Mr. Baird was infeft on 21st February, 1799, and thenceforth took the title of "Baird of Broompark." He built a very commodious Villa on this property, where he resided till his death, *circa* 1817. His testamentary Trustees sold Broompark, on 19th August, 1818, to the Rev. Robert Muter, Minister of the Associate Congregation in Duke Street, who lived there upwards of twenty years. He died in 1842.

A fourth old feuar from the Merchants House was Mr. John Anderson, had his shaving-shop in Bell Street, near the Dispensary, and attracted the attention of the facetious novelist, from some peculiarity. A few of the High Street people of that day, including the famous Knight of the Periwig, are immortalized in "Roderick Random."

* The General, who entered the army in 1811, and has seen much service, is named after his maternal grandfather, Mr. Alexander Fisher, who was a Merchant in Glasgow. He has a war medal with two clasps for Vittoria and Toulouse.

† The Infantry Barracks in Gallowgate were built in 1795, three years prior to the sale in the text, of Broompark. The original buildings cost £15,000, and contained quarters for 1,000 men. The first Regiment which lay there was the Argyleshire Fencibles, commanded by the Marquis of Lorne, afterwards Duke of Argyll. It would appear, from the Conveyance by Mr. Finlay's heirs to Mr. Baird, that the Barracks drew their supply of water from Wester Craigs springs. No Water Company in those days.

Merchant in Glasgow. The Feu-Contract is dated 8th December, 1756, and recorded in the Books of Council and Session, 15th June, 1808. It comprehended a large extent of Wester Craigs, viz. :—1st. "The Goufhill Park," lying immediately to the east of the old Fir Park and "Back-of-the-Brae Park," and to the north of Messrs. Donaldson's Bleachfield. The eastern boundary was Mr. John Finlay's property of Broompark, already noticed, and the north marched with "the lands of the Merchants House, possessed by David Stobo." 2nd. "The East Park," described as bounded on the east "by the lands of Mr. John Glassford, Merchant" (Whitehill); on the south by the highway; on the west by Mr. John Finlay's grounds of Parkhouse Park; and on the north by the Hill Park, the half of which was also Mr. Finlay's. And, 3rd. The east half of the said Hill Park. The feu-duty payable for all this ground was £30.

Mr. John Anderson, who thus acquired these three considerable subdivisions of Wester Craigs, was a native of Forres, and became a merchant in Glasgow of some note. He did not hold his Wester Craigs property much above ten months; but on 15th October, 1757, conveyed it to Jonathan Anderson, his brother, also a merchant. The price was £200. Infestment followed on 22nd March, and the Instrument was recorded in the Local Register, 4th April, 1760.

Mr. Jonathan Anderson was another of the young men trained in that excellent school, the counting-house of John Glassford, Esq., and his own place of business was on the west side of High Street, next the Tolbooth. His name appears as a merchant in the first Glasgow Directory already referred to, published in 1783. He seems soon after this to have retired from active business; and resided, in 1789, at Sweethope, near Bothwell. Mr. Anderson had become a rich man, and, besides the parks of Wester Craigs, was proprietor of the lands of Warwickhill, Dreghorn, and Overton, in Ayrshire. He was owner also of about forty-eight acres of Cowlairs, near Glasgow, including what is now the beautiful garden-cemetery of Sighthill, which had been acquired in 1763 by his brother John from Mr. Alexander Williamson of Petershill. Mr. Anderson likewise owned several tenements in High Street and Gallowgate, one of the latter having been in former times the property of George and Thomas Hucheson,* founders of the Hospital.

Mr. Anderson died at Rochsoles, near Airdrie, on 11th November, 1806. One of his testamentary Trustees was Henry Glassford, Esq. of Dougalston, son of his early patron.

It seems worth recording that about this time the line of old highway which bounded Mr. Anderson's parks on the south was to some extent altered

* This was the mode of writing the surname adopted by these benevolent brothers.

and straightened, and the new line came to intersect the southmost portion of these fields. This was accomplished by the Road Trustees under a special Act of Parliament. One effect was to cut off a small portion of the parks, consisting of about thirty-eight falls and nineteen ells, which thus came to be isolated between the old and new lines of road, opposite the north side of the lands of Annfield, then belonging to Mr. James Sword, sen. An arrangement was made in 1808 between Mr. Anderson's Trustees, as owners of this small detached piece of Wester Craigs, and the Road Trustees, on the one part, and Mr. Sword on the other, whereby the two bodies of Trustees sold to Mr. Sword the said detached portion, and the corresponding *solum* of the old and then disused road, at the price of £218, 1s., Sterling. Conveyances were accordingly executed in Mr. Sword's favour, and he enclosed the acquisition within his own lands of Annfield proper. The Deed is dated 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th October, 1808, and Mr. Sword's Sasine bears date the 11th, and is recorded in the Local Register the 16th November, 1819. Thus there is a small piece of Wester Craigs lying detached within the enclosures of the burgage lands of Annfield, but holding separately of the Merchants' House.*

In the course of their further administration of Mr. Jonathan Anderson's considerable properties, his Trustees, in 1814, disposed of "the Goufhill Park" to James Denniston, Esq., Merchant in Glasgow, the founder, and during more than twenty years the much-respected Manager, of the Glasgow Bank, at the south-west corner of Montrose and Ingram Streets. Mr. Denniston built the fine Villa of Golfhill on the lands thus acquired by him, where he resided till his death on 11th October, 1835.

The remainder of Mr. Anderson's property on Wester Craigs, after the disposal of Golfhill, was in the market for sale about thirteen years.† At length it found a purchaser in the person of Mr. William Taylor, a wealthy retired grocer in Gallowgate. The ground thus acquired by him extended to about 14½ acres, and the price was at the rate of £250 per acre, or £3,591 in all. The Conveyance by Mr. Anderson's Trustees to Mr. Taylor is dated 21st November, 1821. Mr. Taylor's original intention in making this purchase was to erect a

* The names of the old Road Trustees in this transaction are worth preserving, as citizens once well known—viz., Messrs. James Black, Lord Provost; William Glen, one of the Bailies; James Hopkirk of Dalbeth; Thomas Marshall of Sandyford; Robert M'Nair of Belvidere; Richard Dick, Merchant (popularly known as "Justice Dick," and profusely powdered); and James M'Nair of Greenfield. These gentlemen formed a quorum of the Trustees on the Shotts and Airdrie Turnpike Roads.

† These parks formed a favourite spot for the Regiment of Glasgow Sharpshooters, 1,000 strong, commanded by Colonel Hunter, executing their military manœuvres. The undulating ground was admirably adapted for skirmishing, in which this fine Regiment was thoroughly practised, under the eye of the Colonel, and of the no less renowned Major Alston, both excellent officers.

mansion on the then rising ground (now levelled) between, and in line with, the aristocratic edifices of Whitehill and Dunchattan; but he changed his purpose, and purchased the House and grounds of Over Newton, near Partick, where he resided till his death, in 1829. Meanwhile "Anderson's Parks" remained as mere grazing grounds.

In February, 1823, Mr. Taylor sold to Mr. Grahame about three acres, lying along the west side of Whitehill. On the other hand, Mr. Grahame subsequently sold the westmost half of this modern acquisition, to the Trustees for the Glasgow House of Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents, whereon their asylum has been erected. Considering the pains formerly taken for securing the amenity of Whitehill, this sale to the Trustees appears somewhat inconsistent.

Such are a few examples from the earlier history of the subdivisions of Wester Craigs and their owners, as collected from old papers.

Matters remained without much external change on Easter and Wester Craigs during many years. But a somewhat unexpected start towards improvement was commenced about 1838, in the Eastern District, embracing in its scope the Craigs, and which is rapidly transforming much of what was then unbuilt ground into a populous suburb, having as a central point of attraction the beautiful new district called Denniston.

The person who introduced this change, was the late Mr. John Reid, Merchant, Glasgow. This enterprising gentleman formed the idea of improving the locality. With this view he made from time to time purchases of property both in the vicinity of the Craigs, and on the Craigs themselves. It may be worth while shortly to review these acquisitions by Mr. Reid, not only for the sake of preserving some record of transactions bearing on the more recent history of the Craigs, but in justice to Mr. Reid's memory, as the originator of this great local improvement.

1. Mr. Reid's first purchase was on 4th December, 1838, when he acquired from the testamentary Trustees of the late Mr. James Sword, sen., the fine old Villa of Annfield, built in 1770, and its ornamental grounds, embracing the range between Gallowgate and Eastern Duke Street, and facing part of Wester Craigs. The western boundary of Annfield was the ancient unpaved narrow cross-road formerly alluded to, popularly called "Witch Lone."

Among the first things Mr. Reid did, was to widen and improve this queer old road, and convert it into a spacious paved street, 60 feet broad, so as properly to connect the two great lines of highway. The street is now called Bellegrove, and completely built up on both sides with great tenements of houses.

2. Mr. Reid's second purchase was of "Anderson's Parks," on Wester Craigs, from Mr. Taylor's Testamentary Trustees, on 3rd September, 1839.

These fields extended to about fourteen acres, and the price was at the rate of £240 per acre, or £3,591 in all.

3. His third acquisition was in 1841, and consisted of an old-fashioned Villa, and large orchard behind, lying at the south-west corner of "Witch Lone," and skirting it on the west side about half its length. The Villa faced Gallowgait Road, but stood a short distance back, within a *parterre*, the walks being laid with white flint, and the front of the house almost covered with honeysuckle. This quaint-looking property was called "Scarlet Hall," from the circumstance of a former proprietor, Mr. James Young, having been a dealer in scarlet cloth for the celebrated Virginia Merchants' cloaks, &c.* The possession of this property in the close vicinity of Annfield, and running along such a considerable portion of the old "Witch Lone," gave Mr. Reid greater facilities for the improvement of both. Scarlet Hall is now entirely blotted out, the whole *solum* being covered with lofty tenements.

4. Mr. Reid's fourth purchase was the lands of Bellfield, lying immediately to the east of Annfield, along the south side of Eastern Duke Street, as far east as Whitevale, and facing Whitehill grounds. There was an old-fashioned Villa on the property, and a strip of land extended south to the line of Gallowgait Road. The whole consisted of about seven acres, and was the same which Mr. Glassford and Mr. Wallace had successively acquired many years before, to preserve the amenity of Whitehill, as formerly explained.

The sellers to Mr. Reid were the Trustees of the late Mrs. Isabella M'Alpin (after whom the lands were named by her father, "Bellfield"), widow of the Rev. Colin Gillies, one of the ministers of Paisley. The date of this acquisition is May, 1843.

5. The fifth purchase by Mr. Reid was Whitehill, from Robert Grahame, Esq., on 12th June following; and

6. The last acquisition was Meadow Park, from Mr. John Young's testamentary Trustees, in November, 1844. This latter property adjoins Whitehill, and squared off the subjects along the highway, round to the line of road to Cumbernauld.

Such were Mr. Reid's purchases, both on the Craigs and in their immediate neighbourhood.

* The *solum* of Scarlet Hall was acquired in 1754 by Mr. James Young from Mr. John Anderson, the original feuar of part of Wester Craigs, formerly referred to. It lies in Upper Gallowmuir. At that time the northern boundary of Scarlet Hall property was a piece of ornamental ground stretching all the way north to what is now Duke Street, and facing the upper part of Witch Lone. This ornamental ground was planted with trees, and known as "The Merchants Park." It is so represented and designated on M'Arthur's curious old map of 1778. At the present day it is part of the Cattle Market, and the frontage to Witch Lone and Duke Street is occupied by buildings.

He resided at Annfield from the time he became proprietor till he acquired Whitehill, when he removed thither. He celebrated his purchase of the latter, by a grand ball in the fine old mansion, which was attended by upwards of one hundred and fifty people of distinction.

Mr. Reid's intention in buying so many contiguous properties was, to lay them off in streets for feuing. He had building-plans prepared, and had proceeded a certain length, when he died suddenly at Whitehill, on 12th April, 1851.*

Those in charge of his affairs carried out his views to some extent, and the lands of Annfield and Bellfield are now intersected by streets, connecting the Gallowgate and Eastern Duke Street, as well as running transversely.

But Anderson's Parks, Whitehill, and Meadow Park remained almost untouched. It was reserved for Alexander Denniston, Esq., to apply the hand of improvement where Mr. Reid had left off.

Accordingly Mr. Denniston made the following purchases of property adjoining his own paternal Villa and grounds of Golfhill—viz.,

1st. Craigpark, from Provost M'Kenzie's Testamentary Trustees, in 1850.

2nd. Whitehill, }
3rd. Meadow Park, } from Mr. Reid's representatives, in May, 1853.

4th. Broompark, from the Rev. Robert Muter's Trustees, in July, 1854;
and

5th. Anderson's Parks, from Mr. Reid's representatives, in July, 1855.

In 1856 a feuing plan was prepared, under Mr. Denniston's directions, by Mr. James Salmon, Architect, Glasgow, with the view of combining the whole of these properties, as well as the lands of Golfhill, into one grand whole, under the general title of "Denniston," and forming an entirely new Suburb in the east end. This *cumulo* property extends to about two hundred acres. Its boundaries are, on the south, partly Duke Street, and partly the lands of Dunchattan; on the north, Kenniehill, the Townmill Road, and the Molendinar Burn; on the east, the line of the Cumbernauld Road; and on the west, another sweep of the Molendinar, and the Necropolis. The length of the suburb from east to west, is nearly a mile; and from north to south, about half that distance.

This grand feuing plan represents the area intersected by streets running from Duke Street northwards, and also from the Necropolis eastward, all the way to the Cumbernauld Road. These are subdivided into Crescents and

* The row of houses called "Annfield Place," on the north side of, and facing Eastern Duke Street, was built by a feuar from Mr. Reid. These ornamental residences were erected shortly before Mr. Reid's death; and although named after Annfield, the *solum* forms no part of Annfield Lands, but is exclusively Wester Craigs.

Terraces, and the general idea is, to admit a class of ornamental Villas and self-contained houses being erected at moderate prices, and under a small feuduty as compared with other districts.

In furtherance of this scheme, ground was broken in 1857, the first spadeful having been thrown out in March of that year. But matters were not vigorously proceeded with till 1860. The Lands of Broompark, Craigpark, and Anderson's Parks, were the scene of these early operations. The first street formed and built upon, was what is now known as "Wester Craigs Street," traversing a portion of Anderson's Parks, from Duke Street northwards.

The first house built on Denniston was in that particular street, and erected by Mr. James Dairon in 1861.

About the same time were laid off:—1st. "Craigpark Street," a spacious artery running all the way from Duke Street along the eastern side of Anderson's Parks, northwards through Craigpark to the Townmill Road; 2nd. "Broompark Drive;" 3rd. "Seton Terrace;" 4th. "Clayton Terrace;" and 5th. "Oakley Terrace."

In the course of forming Craigpark Street, it became necessary to cut down the elevated ridge which was nearly in the centre, so as to lead the street along a moderate gradient. This ridge was found to be composed chiefly of *till*, thickly studded with boulders of all sizes, rounded and smoothed by attrition. Many were deeply striated, and of rocks quite foreign to the district of Glasgow, particularly granite, gneiss, porphyry, slate, old red-sandstone, and conglomerate.

This geological feature is common on many of the minor eminences around Glasgow, and reveals an impressive tale from an immensely distant epoch. These silent memorials are older than the Craigs; in other words, they were deposited before the Craigs had emerged from the deep, and have come from the north-west. They were torn from their parent rocks in what was probably an archipelago occupying the region of what is now the West or North-west Highlands, by the action of ice, and floated on ice-rafts over the sea which then covered all this part of Scotland, grounding in some places on submarine elevations, and dropping their stony burdens under the melting influence of summer suns. An analogous case is presented in our own day, in the icebergs which, year after year, are launched from the dreary shores of Greenland and Labrador, wrenching with them portions of the various rocks whereof these shores are composed, and carried by oceanic currents down the Atlantic to the tropics, where they dissolve by heat. If the present floor of the Atlantic were again raised, similar memorials, as well as many others, would be found lying on its now submarine plains, profound valleys, and sloping hills, just as the old sea-bottom of Lower Lanarkshire now exhibits as

dry land the debris of floated rocks or boulders dropped on its bosom when under the deep.

As yet, Golfhill, Whitehill, and Meadowpark remain untouched. But when Denniston Suburb is built up and completed, it will accommodate a population of about seven thousand. At the present date, seventy houses have been built, and others are in course of erection.

But, besides these extensive purchases on the Craigs, Mr. Denniston acquired in 1864, from Mr. John Reid's representatives, the whole unfeued portions of Annfield and Bellfield, extending to about fourteen acres, to secure the amenity of Denniston from the south. Along the northern skirts of these two newly acquired properties, rows of tenements are erected and in course of being built, and will hereafter be recognized under the names of Annfield and of Bellfield Terraces, part being on each of these lands.

It is intended to continue these buildings all the way east to Whitevale; and ere long the whole of this ground will be intersected with streets and houses, though of a less ornamental character than those of the picturesque Denniston, on the old property of the Knights of Mynto, and of the Merchants House.

J. B.

GLASGOW, OCTOBER, 1866.

DEANS OF GUILD OF GLASGOW.

THE following is a List of the Lords Dean of Guild of Glasgow, from the date of the Letter of Guildry to the present time, with Facsimiles of what are believed to be their Autographs, obtained principally from documents in the possession of the Merchants House:—

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
1. MATTHEW TURNBULL, .	1605-6, .	<i>matheo Turnbulla Dean of gtd</i>
2. ARCHIBALD FAULDS, .	1607, .	<i>Ar & Francis</i>
3. WILLIAM SOMMER, .	1608, .	<i>Wm. Sommer</i>
4. GEORGE MASTER, .	1609, .	<i>Georgy Master</i>
5. JAMES BELL, . . .	1610-11, .	<i>James Bell</i>
6. WILLIAM WEEMS, .	1612, .	<i>Wm Weems</i>
7. JAMES BELL, . . .	1613-14, .	<i>James Bell</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
8. JOHN LAWSON, . . .	1615-16, .	<i>John Lawson</i>
9. JOHN ROWAT, . . .	1617, .	<i>John Rowat Dean of Guild</i>
10. COLIN CAMPBELL, . . .	1618-19, .	<i>Colin Campbell</i>
11. JOHN ROWAT, . . .	1620-21, .	<i>John Rowat Dean of Guild</i>
12. COLIN CAMPBELL, . . .	1622, .	<i>Colin Campbell</i>
13. MATTHEW TURNBULL, . . .	1623-24, .	<i>Matthew Turnbull Dean of Guild</i>
14. PATRICK BELL, . . .	1625, .	<i>Patrick Bell</i>
15. MATTHEW TURNBULL, . . .	1626, .	<i>Matthew Turnbull Dean of Guild</i>
16. COLIN CAMPBELL, . . .	1627-28, .	<i>Colin Campbell</i>
17. PATRICK BELL, . . .	1629-30, .	<i>Patrick Bell</i>

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DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH
18. JOHN BARNS, . . .	1631-32, .	<i>John Barnes</i>
19. HENRY GLEN, . . .	1633-34, .	<i>Henry Glen</i>
20. JOHN BARNS, . . .	1635-36, .	<i>John Barnes</i>
21. JAMES HAMILTON, . . .	1637-38, .	<i>James Hamilton</i>
22. WALTER STIRLING, . . .	1639-40, .	<i>Walter Stirling</i>
23. JAMES BELL, . . .	1641, .	<i>James Bell</i>
24. JOHN BARNS, . . .	1642-43, .	<i>John Barnes</i>
25. HENRY GLEN, . . .	1644-45, .	<i>Henry Glen</i>
26. ANDREW CUNNINGHAM, 1646, .		<i>A. W. Cunningham</i>
27. JAMES HAMILTON, . . .	1647, .	<i>James Hamilton</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH
28. WILLIAM DUNLOP.	1648-49,	<i>William Dunlop</i>
29. JOHN GRAHAM,	1650,	<i>John Graham Dean of Guild</i>
30. WILLIAM DUNLOP,	1651-52,	<i>William Dunlop</i>
31. JAMES HAMILTON,	1653-54-55,	<i>James Hamilton</i>
32. JOHN BELL,	1656-57,	<i>John Bell</i>
33. JAMES CAMPBELL,	1658-59,	<i>James Campbell</i>
34. JAMES BARNS,	1660,	<i>J^r Barner</i>
35. FREDERICK HAMILTON,	1661-62,	<i>Frederick Hamilton</i>
36. JOHN BARNS,	1663-64,	<i>John Barnes</i>
37. FREDERICK HAMILTON,	1665,	<i>Frederick Hamilton</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE	AUTOGRAPH.
38. JAMES POLLOCK, . . . 1666,		<i>James Pollock</i>
39. JOHN WALKINSHAW, . . 1667-68,		<i>John Walkinshaw</i>
40. JOHN ANDERSON, . . . 1669,		<i>John Anderson</i>
41. FREDERICK HAMILTON, 1670,		<i>Frederick Hamilton</i>
42. ROBERT RAE, 1671,		<i>Robert Rae</i>
43. JOHN WALKINSHAW, . . 1672-73,		<i>John Walkinshaw</i>
44. JOHN CALDWELL, . . . 1674,		<i>John Caldwell</i>
45. FREDERICK HAMILTON, 1675-76-77,		<i>Frederick Hamilton</i>
46. NINIAN ANDERSON, . . 1678,		<i>Ninian Anderson</i>
47. ROBERT CAMPBELL, . . 1679-80-81,		<i>Robert Campbell</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE	AUTOGRAPH.
48. HUGH NISBETT,	1682-83,	<i>Hugh Nisbett</i>
49. JOHN FLEMING,	1684,	<i>John Fleming</i>
50. ROBERT CROSS,	1685,	<i>Robert Cross</i>
51. GEORGE JOHNSTON,	1686,	<i>Geo Johnston</i>
52. ROBERT CAMPBELL,	1687-88,	<i>Robert Campbell</i>
53. WILLIAM NAPIER,	1689-90,	<i>Will: Napier.</i>
54. JAMES PEADIE,	1691,	<i>James Peadie</i>
55. JOHN LECKIE,	1692-93,	<i>John Leckie</i>
56. JOHN CROSS,	1694-95,	<i>John Cross</i>
57. JOHN AIRD,	1696-97,	<i>John Aird</i>

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

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	DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
58.	ROBERT RODGER,	1698-99,	<i>Robert Rodger</i>
59.	JOHN AIRD,	1700-1,	<i>John Aird</i>
60.	ROBERT ZUILL,	1702-3,	<i>Robert Zuill</i>
61.	JOHN AIRD,	1704-5,	<i>John Aird</i>
62.	JOHN BOWMAN,	1706-7,	<i>J Bowman</i>
63.	THOMAS PETER,	1708-9,	<i>Thomas Peter</i>
64.	THOMAS SMITH,	1710-11,	<i>Thomas Smith</i>
65.	ROBERT ZUILL,	1712-13,	<i>Robert Zuill</i>
66.	THOMAS SMITH,	1714-15,	<i>Thomas Smith</i>
67.	ADAM MONTGOMERY,	1716-17,	<i>Adam Montgomery Esq.</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
68. THOMAS THOMSON,	. 1718-19, .	<i>Thos Thomson,</i>
69. JAMES PEADIE,	. . 1720-21, .	<i>James Peadie</i>
70. GILBERT BUCHANAN,	. 1722-23, .	<i>Gilbert Buchanan</i>
71. JOHN STARK,	. . . 1724-25, .	<i>J^r Stark.</i>
72. JAMES PEADIE,	. . 1726-27, .	<i>James Peadie</i>
73. HUGH RODGER,	. . 1728, .	<i>Hugh Rodger</i>
74. ANDREW BUCHANAN,	. 1729-30, .	<i>Andrew Buchanan</i>
75. WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,	1731-32, .	<i>William Cunningham</i>
76. ANDREW RAMSAY,	. 1733-34, .	<i>Andrew Ramsay</i>
77. ARTHUR TRAN,	. . 1735-36, .	<i>Arthur Tran</i>

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

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DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
78. JOHN GARTSHORE,	. 1737-38,	<i>John Gartshore</i>
79. JAMES ROBERTSON,	. 1739-40,	<i>J. Robertson</i>
80. GEORGE BOGLE,	. 1741-42,	<i>George Bogle</i>
81. MATTHEW BOGLE,	. 1743-44,	<i>Matthew Bogle</i>
82. GEORGE BOGLE,	. 1745-46,	<i>George Bogle</i>
83. JOHN BROWN,	. 1747-48,	<i>John Brown</i>
84. GEORGE BOGLE,	. 1749-50,	<i>George Bogle</i>
85. GEORGE MURDOCH,	. 1751-52,	<i>George Murdoch</i>
86. ROBERT CHRISTIE,	. 1753-54,	<i>Robt. Christie</i>
87. JOHN BOWMAN,	. 1755-56,	<i>John Bowman</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
88. ARCHIBALD INGRAM, .	1757-58, .	<i>Arch Ingram</i>
89. COLIN DUNLOP, .	1759-60, .	<i>Colin Dunlop</i>
90. ARCHIBALD INGRAM, .	1761-62, .	<i>Arch Ingram</i>
91. GEORGE BROWN, .	1763-64, .	<i>George Brown</i>
92. ARTHUR CONNELL, .	1765-66, .	<i>Arthur Connell</i>
93. JOHN CAMPBELL, .	1767-68, .	<i>John Campbell</i>
94. ARCHIBALD SMELLIE, .	1769-70, .	<i>Arch Smellie</i>
95. GEORGE BROWN, .	1771-72, .	<i>George Brown</i>
96. JAMES BUCHANAN, .	1773-74, .	<i>Sat Buchanan</i>
97. JOHN CAMPBELL, .	1775-76, .	<i>John Campbell</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
98. HUGH WYLIE, . . .	1777-78, .	<i>Hugh Wylie</i>
99. ALEXANDER M'CAUL, . .	1779-80, ..	<i>Alex M'Caule</i>
100. JOHN CAMPBELL, . . .	1781-82, .	<i>John Campbell</i>
101. JAMES M'GRIGOR, . . .	1783-84, .	<i>James M'Grigor</i>
102. ALEXANDER BROWN, . .	1785-86, .	<i>Alex Brown Esq.</i>
103. WILLIAM COATS, . . .	1787-88, .	<i>William Coats</i>
104. ALEXANDER LOW, . . .	1789-90, :	<i>Alex Low Esq.</i>
105. GILBERT HAMILTON, . .	1791-92, .	<i>Gilb Hamilton</i>
106. JOHN DUNLOP, . . .	1793-94, .	<i>John Dunlop Esq.</i>
107. JOHN LAURIE, . . .	1795-96, .	<i>John Laurie</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
108. ROBERT FINDLAY,	1797-98,	<i>Robt Findlay</i>
109. ARCHIBALD SMITH,	1799-1800,	<i>Arch Smith</i>
110. JOHN LAURIE,	1801-2,	<i>John Laurie</i>
111. ROBERT CARRICK,	1803-4,	<i>Robert Carrick</i>
112. JOHN LAURIE,	1805-6,	<i>John Laurie</i>
113. JAMES BLACK,	1807-8,	<i>James Black</i>
114. JOHN HAMILTON,	1809-10,	<i>John Hamilton</i>
115. ROBERT M'NAIR,	1811,	<i>Robert M'Nair</i>
116. DANIEL MACKENZIE,	1812-13,	<i>Daniel Mackenzie</i>
117. JOHN GUTHRIE,	1814-15,	<i>John Guthrie</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
118. JAMES EWING,	1816-17,	<i>Ja Ewing</i>
119. HENRY MONTEITH,	1818,	<i>Henry Monteith</i>
120. ROBERT FINDLAY,	1819-20,	<i>Robt Findlay</i>
121. WILLIAM SMITH,	1821-22,	<i>Wm Smith</i>
122. MUNGO N. CAMPBELL,	1823-24,	<i>Mungo N. Campbell Esq.</i>
123. ROBERT DALGLISH,	1825-26,	<i>Robert DalGLISH</i>
124. ALEXANDER GARDEN,	1827-28,	<i>Alex Garden</i>
125. STEWART SMITH,	1829-30,	<i>Stewart Smith Esq.</i>
126. JAMES EWING,	1831-32,	<i>Ja Ewing</i>
127. JAMES HUTCHISON,	1833-34,	<i>James Hutchison</i>

DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
128. JAMES MARTIN, . . .	1835-36, .	<i>J Martin</i>
129. WILLIAM BROWN, . . .	1837-38, .	<i>William Brown</i>
130. JAMES BROWNE, . . .	1839-40, .	<i>J Browne D.G.</i>
131. WILLIAM GRAY, . . .	1841-42, .	<i>W Gray D.G.</i>
132. HUGH COGAN, . . .	1843-44, .	<i>Hugh Cogan D.G.</i>
133. JOHN LEADBETTER, . . .	1845-46, .	<i>John Leadbetter</i>
134. JAMES BOGLE, . . .	1847-48, .	<i>James Bogle D.G.</i>
135. ANDREW GALBRAITH, . . .	1849-50, .	<i>Andrew Galbraith</i>
136. WILLIAM CONNAL, . . .	1851-52, .	<i>W Connal D.G.</i>
137. JAMES HANNAN, . . .	1853-54, .	<i>James Hannan</i>

	DEAN OF GUILD.	YEAR OF OFFICE.	AUTOGRAPH.
	138. ROBERT BAIRD,	1855 to 7th Aug., 1856,	<i>Robt Baird D.G.</i>
*	139. WILLIAM CONNAL,	{ Interim Dean, 22nd to 25th Aug., 1856, }	<i>W. Connal D.G.</i>
	140. WILLIAM BROWN,	{ Interim Dean, 9th Sept. to 7th Oct., 1856, }	<i>William Brown D.G.</i>
	141. JOHN JAMIESON,	. . . 1857-58, .	<i>John Jamieson D.S.</i>
	142. THOMAS BUCHANAN,	. . . 1859-60, .	<i>T. Buchanan D.G.</i>
	143. JAMES LUMSDEN,	. . . 1861-62, .	<i>James Lumsden D.S.</i>
	144. ALEXANDER RONALDSON,	1863-64,	<i>Alex Ronaldson D.G.</i>
	145. ARCHIBALD ORR EWING,	1865-66, .	<i>Archibald Orr Ewing D.S.</i>

* MR. BAIRD died while holding the office of Dean, and MR. CONNAL, who was appointed his successor ad interim, only survived his appointment three days. MR. BROWN, who had previously held the office, then accepted the chair, until the regular period for the Annual Election arrived, when MR. JAMIESON was nominated.

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LIST OF THE COLLECTORS
OF
THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

1605. Archibald Faulis.	1698-99. Andrew Scott.
1624. Robert Bogill.	1700-1. John Buchanau.
1632. John Herbertson.	1702-4. Robert M'Goun.
1633. John Gilmour, yr.	1705-6. James Smyth.
1642. William Hyndschaw.	1707-8. William Gow.
1650. Cuthbert Campbell.	1709-10. John Whythill.
1656. James Barnes.	1711-36. James Christie.
1657-58. Thomas Davidson.	1737-49. John Riddell.
1659-60. Andrew Gibsone.	1750-51. William Robb.
1661-62. John Louk.	1752-53. James Barrie.
1663. John Cauldwell.	1754-58. John Wilson.
1664. Peter Gemmill.	1759-63. Ebenezer Monro.
1665-68. John Corse.	1764-66. John Carlile.
1669. John Craig.	1767-88. James Hill.
1670-72. George Herbertsone.	1789-90. James Hill, sen ^r , and James Hill, jun ^r .
1673. John Stirling.	1791-1818. James Hill.
1674-75. James Biskett.	1819-37. Laurence Hill.
1676-77. George Muirhead.	1837-50. Robert Buntine, Collector and Clerk.
1678-79. James Stirling.	1850-54. Archibald Newall, Collector and Clerk.
1680-83. William Napier.	1854-58. Archibald Newall, and John Smith, Assistant, Collec- tor and Clerk.
1684-85. William Anderson.	1858-66. John Smith, Collector and Clerk.
1686-87. James Bogle.	
1688-89. Andrew Scott.	
1690-91. John Ritchie.	
1692-93. John Coats.	
1694-95. Robert Boyd.	
1696-97. John Andersone.	

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LIST OF BENEFACTIONS

TO

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

THE following is a List of Benefactions to the Merchants House of Glasgow, so far as appearing from the Minute and Account Books of the House, and as extracted from the "Testament Buikes of ye Commissariat of Glasgow;" and also in so far as these are recorded upon the Memorial Boards which it was customary, in former times, to have painted with the name and designation of the donor, his age, and date of death, and the amount of his donation, and which were at one time exhibited on the walls of the House. These Boards, being considered too numerous to be hung up on the walls of any of the rooms in the present Building, are now deposited in the cellars of the House. The statements which the Boards contained are all exactly transcribed in the following List, and an asterisk placed against the name of each person who has been so honoured.

Besides these Benefactions, however, which were principally for the use of their poor, numerous other sums were gifted to the Merchants House for special purposes,—such as for building the "Merchants Hospitall;" and also for "re-edifying the fabrick of the Hospitall," a list of which will be found in the first volume of the Guild or "Gold Book." Also, for "defraying the chairge and expenses of building of the new hous laitie buildit be the Mer^{ts} Hous at the Corse," a list of which is given in the Minute Book of the House, under date the 25th October, 1663.

Prior to 1699 inclusive, the following Contributions are all in Scotch money; after that date the amounts represent Sterling money.

- 1602. Johne Mure, Skipper, Burges of Glasgow, a Ground Annual of Forty Shillings.
- 1604. John Colquhoun, Notar, a Ground Annual of Eight Merks.
- 1606. Thomas Muir, a Ground Annual of Six Shillings and Eightpence.
- 1608. John Scott, Cordyner, Burges of Glasgow, and Euphaue Govane, Spouss, a yearly Feu-duty of Five Pounds, Scots.
- „ Hugh Gibson, Notar, an Annual Rent of Forty Shillings.

1609.	Elizabeth Biggart, Spouse to Niniane Hill, Merchand, Forty Merks,	£26	13	4
„	Williame Hunter, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	3	0	0
„	Mathow Stark, Merchand,	3	0	0
„	Gawane Bar, Merchand,	4	0	0
1611.	Johne Hill, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, Ten Merks Money, .	6	13	4
„	Abrahame Ross, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, Ten Merks Money, .	6	13	4
„	Adame Spang, Merchand,	1	0	0
„	Robert Adame, Merchand, Twenty Merks,	13	6	8
1612.	Johne Howisoune, Minister at Cambuslang, 500 Merks, . . .	333	6	8
1613.	Robert Donaldsoune, Merchand,	3	0	0
1616.	James Connell, Merchand, Five Merks Money,	3	6	8
1617.	Johne Andersoune, sometime Baillzie of Glasgow,	6	0	0
„	Thomas Lymburne, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, Forty Merks, .	26	13	4
„	Abrahame Muir, Merchand,	6	0	0
„	Johne Sempill, Merchand, Ten Merks Money,	6	13	4
„	Williame Sympsoune, Merchand,	10	0	0
„	James Bell, Merchand,	1	0	0
„	Robert Bell, Merchand,	2	0	0
1618.	John Dalrumpill, Merchand,	10	0	0
„	Andro Sommer, Merchand, Forty Merks,	26	13	4
„	James Patoune, Merchand,	10	0	0
1619.	John Barnes, Merchand, a Ground Annual of 43s. 4d., Scots.			
„	Jonat Adame, relict of Umq ^l Mr. David Gibsoune, Notar in Glasgow,	1	0	0
1620.	Archibald Russell, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	20	0	0
1621.	Mr. David Weimes, ane of the Ordinar Ministers of Glasgow, .	20	0	0
1623.	Johne Vallance, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	20	0	0
„	Allane Conynghame, Merchand,	20	0	0
„	Robert Findlay, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	40	0	0
* 1625.	James Cumming, Merchant in Glasgow, left in legacie unto the Poor Members of the Merchant Rank within the Citie of Glasgow the soume of ane hundred pound, Scots, who deceased the 15th day of March, 1625, and of his age 32 years, .	100	0	0
1627.	David Sheirer, Couper, Burges of Glasgow,	20	0	0
„	Johne Montiethe, Merchand,	40	0	0
1628.	Agnes Broune, relict of Umq ^l David Hall, Merchand, . . .	10	0	0
1629.	Gilbert Marschall, Five Merks,	3	6	8
„	Jeane Conynghame, relict of Vmq ^l John Thomsoune, Toun Clerk of Glasgow,	10	0	0
„	Marioune Muir, relict of Vmq ^l David Sheirer, Couper, . . .	20	0	0
1630.	Johne Conynghame, Merchand,	20	0	0
„	Duncan M'Key, Tallzeor, Twenty Merks,	13	6	8

1631.	Johne Allane, elder, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	£5	0	0
„	Thomas Young, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, Twenty Merks, .	13	6	8
1632.	John Peadie, Skinner, fyve dollors.			
„	Robert Parkhill, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, ane hundrethe merkis Money,	66	13	4
„	Patrick Menteithe, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	50	0	0
1633.	Archbischepe James Law, by his Will, dated 6th July, 1632, confirmed 6th September, 1633, ordaines Mr. Thomas Law, “ Minister at Inchinane, and Mr. George Law, his Sonnes, to give to ye puir of Sanct Nicolles hospitall in Glasgow, foundit be ye Archbischopes, y ^r of the Soume of fyve hundrethe merkis Scottis Money; and to ye Merchandis and Craftis Hospitall, equallie to be devydit betwix yam, fyve hundrethe merkis Money, and to be imployat for the sustenta ^{un} of ye puir, present and to come, and to make compt yeirlie, .	166	13	4
1634.	John Lawsons, Merchand, Forty merks,	26	13	4
„	Helline Fleming,	20	0	0
„	Patrick Bell, Merchand burgess of Glasgow, Twenty Merks, .	13	6	8
„	Gavane Neisbet, elder, Twenty Merks,	13	6	8
„	James Hamiltoun of Aikenhead, ane hundrethe merkis.	66	13	4
1635.	Zachary Boyd, Minister of Christ’s Evangel at the Barony Kirk of Glasgow,	1,000	0	0
„	Matthew Marschell, Merchand Burges of Glasgow,	20	0	0
1636.	Williame Wilsoune, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, four rex dollors.			
„	Johne Baird, Merchand Burges of Glasgow, Twenty Merks, .	13	6	8
1641.	Patrick Bell, Merchant,	1,333	6	6
1647.	James Stewart, Merchand in Glasgow, sometyme Proveist thereof,	200	0	0
1649.	Gabriel Conynghame, sometyme Proveist of Glasgow, a Feuduty of Twenty merks yearly.			
1664.	Robert Donaldsoun, Elder, Merchant burgess of Glasgow, an Annual Rent of Forty Shillings, Scots.			
1669.	John Peadie,	11	12	0
„	George Campbell,	11	12	0
„	James Slosse,	11	12	0
„	John Hunter,	6	0	0
„	W. M’Callum,	6	0	0
„	James Chapmane,	8	8	0
„	James Montgomerie,	14	10	0
„	J ^r Andersoun, of Augmentation,	12	3	0
1670.	Gavin Hamilton,	8	14	0

1670.	Ro ^t Maxwell,	£11	12	0
„	Pat. Murdoch, of Augmentation,	10	0	0
„	Jo ^e Neill, do.	6	0	0
„	Thomas Lachlan,	5	12	0
„	James King,	5	12	0
„	John Rae,	11	12	0
„	Colin Hammill,	8	8	0
„	John Maxwell,	11	4	0
„	John Aitchison,	16	16	0
„	Gilbert Sheirer,	5	12	0
„	John Shaw,	8	8	0
„	Andrew Donaldson,	8	8	0
„	John Houstoun,	5	12	0
„	Thomas Pollok, elder,	14	10	0
„	Thomas Pollok, yor.,	17	8	0
„	George Robison,	12	0	0
„	Allan Allason,	3	18	4
„	John Govan,	14	0	0
„	Andrew Spreull,	11	4	0
„	William Allason, in Trongait,	11	12	0
„	John Reid, Stationer,	5	16	0
„	David Anneill,	6	0	0
„	Robert Henrie,	4	0	0
„	Thomas Justice,	11	12	0
„	James Robison,	22	8	0
„	George Muirhead,	12	0	0
„	Ro ^t Wright, in Kilmarnock,	19	12	0
„	Alex ^r Finnie,	11	12	0
„	W ^m Hyndshaw, for James Hyndshaw,	5	16	0
„	Gab. Thomson, in Polmadie,	14	0	0
„	William Bogle,	11	12	0
„	Duncan McLauchland,	11	12	0
„	James Corbet,	11	12	0
„	John McEwn, Elder,	5	12	0
„	James A. Slosse,	20	0	0
„	James Brown,	6	0	0
„	James Conynghame,	5	16	0
„	Thomas Peter,	12	0	0
„	John Leckie,	20	0	0
„	David Calder, in the Lenzie Parish,	16	16	0
1671.	Neill McCurren,	8	14	0
„	John Gairdner,	8	14	0

1671.	Ro ^t Campbell, Colins Ro ^t ,	£14	0	0
„	John Ritchie,	8	8	0
1672.	William Wallace,	17	8	0
„	John Blackwood,	40	0	0
„	Hugh Blair,	40	0	0
„	James Massingell, Master of ane English Veshell,	42	0	0
„	William Johnston, Merchant in Ed ^r ,	28	0	0
„	James Guy,	11	4	0
„	John Johnston, yor., of Augmentation,	14	0	0
„	Alex ^r Wotherspoone,	8	8	0
1673.	Alex ^r Mershell,	14	0	0
„	John Anderson, Skipper,	60	0	0
1675.	James Rae,	11	6	0
1678.	Alex ^r Dunlope, a Ground Annual of a Firlot of groats of corn, out of Garngadhill.			
„	George Johnstone, of Augmentation,	14	3	0
„	Ro ^t Campbell, of Silvercraigs,	50	0	0
„	Ro ^t Campbell, Dean of Guild, of Augmentation,	46	0	0
„	Ro ^t Johnstone,	30	0	0
„	James Johnstone,	30	0	0
„	Thomas Johnstone,	30	0	0
„	John Walkingshaw, yor.,	33	6	8
„	James Walkingshaw,	24	0	0
„	William Walkingshaw,	24	0	0
„	Malcum Clark,	8	0	0
„	Thomas Pagan,	12	0	0
„	Andrew Armoure,	30	0	0
„	Walter Gibsoun,	100	0	0
„	John Purveyance,	16	0	0
„	William Gib,	30	0	0
„	Ro ^t Boyd,	20	0	0
„	Ro ^t Hamiltoun,	12	0	0
* 1679.	Zacharias Zebbes, Sugar Boyller in the Eister Sugarie of Glasgow, was born in the town of Riostuke, in Germanie; departed this Lyf, in Glasgow, December, 1679, about the 36 yeir of his age; and left of Legacie to the Poor of the House, 2,277 lib., 09 sh., 06 d., Scots,			
„	Thomas Weir,	2,277	9	6
1680.	John Walkingshaw of Barrowfield,	40	0	0
1681.	James Armour, yor.,	100	0	0
„	John Scot,	33	6	0
„	Robert Dinwiddie,	12	0	0
		56	0	0

1681.	John M ^c Nie,	£30	0	0
1682.	John Bell, Provost, and Robert Corse, Bailie of Glasgow, "of all unlaues, fynes, and penalties, belonging to them by the laws of the realm,"			
1684.	Patrick Mitchell,	18	0	0
	„ James Adam,	16	0	0
	„ Simon Baird,	12	0	0
	„ Robert Gray,	24	0	0
	„ James Blane,	20	0	0
	„ George Robisone,	30	0	0
	„ Thomas Gibsone,	12	0	0
	„ Alexander Telfeir,	12	0	0
	„ James Bogle, now Elder,	24	0	0
	„ John Andersone, Shope Keeper,	24	0	0
	„ John Corse,	56	0	0
	„ William Downy,	18	0	0
	„ Neill M ^c Curran,	20	0	0
	„ Robert Semple,	24	0	0
	„ Andrew Browne, Stationer,	6	0	0
	„ John Boyd,	12	0	0
	„ Robert Sanders,	20	0	0
	„ Thomas Hanna,	14	0	0
	„ William Napier,	30	0	0
1685.	John M ^c Gorman,	12	0	0
	„ Wm. Blackburne,	12	0	0
	„ Alex. Carlile,	29	0	0
	„ John Leckie, yor.,	36	0	0
1686.	Wm. Chartores,	20	0	0
	„ Hew Blair,	18	0	0
	„ James Peadie, yor.,	20	0	0
	„ Mungo Cocheran,	24	0	0
	„ John M ^c Cure, Wrytter,	18	0	0
1687.	The Skippers and Mariners of the Burgh of Glasgow—"Eight- pence in the Pound Scots of their Wages."			
1688.	Thomas M ^c Nee,	12	0	0
	„ Rot. Rodger,	6	0	0
	„ Hendry Smith,	6	0	0
	„ John Cauldwell,	6	0	0
	„ John Clark,	6	0	0
	„ James Bogle,	28	0	0
	„ Hugh Montgomery,	28	0	0
	„ Wm. Corse,	28	0	0

1688.	Wm. Dunlop,	. . . . .	£28	0	0
	„ George Lockhart,	. . . . .	28	0	0
1689.	Tho. Maxwell,	. . . . .	40	0	0
	„ Mar ^t Govane, relict of Jon. M ^t Keane,	. . . . .	40	0	0
*	„ John Walkinshaw, Elder of Barrowfield, Merchant, at his death, in Legacie to the Poor Members of the Merchant Rank within the Citie of Glasgow, left the sum of One Hundred Pounds, Scots; who deceast 27 th of March, 1689,	. . . . .	100	0	0
	„ Wm. Buchanan,	. . . . .	42	0	0
	„ Mr. Alexr. Tran,	. . . . .	33	6	8
1690.	John Dicksone,	. . . . .	24	0	0
	„ James Montgomerie,	. . . . .	28	0	0
* 1692.	Mr. Michael Wallace, Doctor of Medicine, left in Legacie to the Poor Members of the Merchants Rank, within the Citie of Glasgow, the sum of One Hundred Pounds, Scots Money; who deceased the 23 rd of Januarie, 1692,	. . . . .	100	0	0
1693.	James Muschet, Merchant,	. . . . .	100	0	0
	„ Jean Dunlop, relict of Ro ^t Campbell,	. . . . .	133	6	8
* 1694.	John Glendie, sometime Minister in Glasgow, late Dean of Caishell, and Prebend of St. Michael's, Dublin, in Ireland, who deceased the 22nd day of January, 1694, in the 63 year of his age, left to the Poor of the Merchants Hospitall in Glasgow, Six Hundereth and Eighty Pounds, Scots Money, Scots,	. . . . .	680	0	0
	„ John Brownlie, from his brother Alex ^r,	. . . . .	100	0	0
	„ James Cumyng, from W ^m Gray,	. . . . .	100	0	0
	„ John Craig, that was in the toun of Irving,	. . . . .	1,666	13	4
* „	Robert Campbell, of North Woodside, Merchant in Glasgow, left in Legacie to the Poor of this Hospitall, Two Hundreth Merks, Scots, was Deceased upon the 21 day of June, 1694, and of his age 47,	. . . . .	133	6	8
1695.	Thomas Crawford, Elder, of Crawford's burne,	. . . . .	100	0	0
	„ John Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, 1,500 Merks,	. . . . .	1,000	0	0
* 1696.	Master Hendrie Baillie, Preacher of the Gospel, left in Legacie, to the Poor of the Merchant Rank of Glasgow, On Hundreth Pounds, Scots. He died 27th January, 1696, <i>ÆTAT</i> 59,	. . . . .	100	0	0
* 1697.	Thomas Justice, Merchant in this City, and a Member of this House, left, for the use of the Poor and this Hospital, On Thousand Merks. He died November 9, 1697, <i>ÆT.</i> 62,	. . . . .	666	13	4
	„ John Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, a Bursary at the College.	. . . . .		
1698.	Robert Govane, Writer,	. . . . .	584	0	0
	„ Thomas Johnston, Merchant,	. . . . .	300	0	0

1699.	John Leckie, Dean of Guild,	£266	13	4
*	„ Marion Culin, relict of the deceased John Graham, late Provost of Glasgow, and of the deceased Mr. Robert M ^c Ward, late Minister their, left in Legacie to the Poor of the Merchants House, One Hundred and 20 Pound, Scots; who deceased the 20th of September, 1699, in the 70th year of her age,	120	0	0
*	„ John Smith, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor in this House, One Hundred Pounds, Scots. He died the 7th October, 1699, anno 93 <i>ÆTATIS</i> ,	100	0	0
	„ John Wallace, M.D.,	100	0	0
* 1700.	Gillies Mitchell, Merchant in Ballenrob, in Ireland, left to Poor of the Merchants House in Glasgow, Ten Pounds Ster ^l . He deceased 1700, about the 48 year of his age, Sterling,	10	0	0
	„ James Anderson,	8	6	8
*	„ John Gilchrist, Tayleur, late Deacon Convener of this Burgh, hath left to the Poor of this House, On Thousand Merks; who deceased the seventh day of January, 1700, being the 66th year of his age,	55	11	1½
*	„ John Graham of Dougalstoun, Writer in Glasgow, Mortified to the Poor Merchants of this House the sum of Two Thousand Punds, Scots, to be applied in the terms of the Mortification, insert in the records of this House; who deceased the eightein day of January, 1700 years, in the sixtie second year of his age,	166	13	4
*	„ Cuthbert Campbell, Merchant, has left to the Poor of this House One Hundred Pounds, Scots; who deceased the first of March, 1700, being the 77th year of his age,	8	6	8
1701.	Andrew Walls, Merchant,	27	15	6½
*	„ Christian Mitchell, relict of the deceased Thomas Justice, Merchant in Glasgow, left for the use of the Poor in the Merchants House One Hundred Pound; who deceased the 26 of April, 1701, <i>ÆT.</i> 58,	8	6	8
	„ John Craig, Merchant,	138	17	9½
* 1702.	James Anderson, Merchant, left to the Poor of this House the sum of One Hundred Pounds. He deceased the 23 day of February, 1702, in the 22 year of his age,	8	6	8
1703.	James Corbet,	21	15	0
	„ James Colquhoun, late Bailie of Glasgow,	8	6	8
	„ Thomas Goodwin, Merchant,	5	0	0
	„ The Laird of Roughrig,	12	0	0
	„ William Crawford, Merchant,	8	6	8
	„ John Napier, Merchant,	222	4	5½

* 1703.	Margaret Barns, relict of the deceased Mr. Robert Govane, Merc ^t , Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House one hundred lib ^s ., Scots. She died the 22 ^d day of September, 1703, æt. 76,	£8	6	8
* 1704.	George Bogle, Merchant in this City. left to the Poor of this House on hundred Pound. He deceased the 18 day of January, 1704, in the 76 year of his age,	8	6	8
"	John Mitchell, maltman,	11	2	2½
* "	Simon Baird, Merchant, left to the Poor of this House one hundred pounds, Scots. He deceased the 29 day of October, 1704, in the 57 year of his age,	8	6	8
* "	William Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 29 day of July, 1704, in the 51 year of his age,	8	6	8
* "	Allan Dreghorn of Ruchill, Esq ^r , Merch ^t in Glasgow, died 19 th October, 1704, aged 58 years, left £21, sterling,	21	0	0
* "	John Adam, Merchant, left to the Poor of this House one hundred Pounds, Scots. He deceased the 19 th day of November, 1704, in the 50 year of his age,	8	6	8
* 1705.	Andrew Morrison, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of this House 300 ^{sd} merks, and 50 merks of interest; who Died near to Saint Christopher in America, in 1705, aged 45, received only,	16	13	4
* "	Robert Corse, Merchant in this City, left to the Poor of this House on hundred Pound. He deceased the 4 th of April, 1705, in the 66 year of his age,	8	6	8
"	John M ^c Kerrell, Dublin,	8	6	8
* "	William Boick, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 500 ^{sd} merks, Scots; who deceast the 12 th of August, 1705, and of his age 64, received,	27	17	6½
1706.	Adam Montgomerie, Stockholm,	30	11	1½
"	John Crawford, of Milton,	8	6	8
"	Marion Stuart, relict of John Nisbet,	8	6	8
* "	James Lees, Merchant in Glasgow, and James Corbeit, Baxter there, gave to the Poor of this House 200 ^{sd} merks, Scots, out of Robert Corbeit, his effects, who Deceast the 21 of December, 1706, and of his age 33,	11	2	2½
* "	Alexander Brownlie, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of the Merchants Hous 100 ^{sd} Pounds, Scots; who Deceast the 23 of December, 1706, and of his age the 35,	8	6	8
1707.	William Boyd, Merchant,	8	6	8
* "	Collin Campbell of Blythswood left to the Poor of this Hous 200 merks, Scots; who deceast the 6 of July, 1707, and of his age 69,	11	2	2½

1707.	John Campbell of Woodside,	£8	6	8
* „	John Leckie of Newlands left to the Poor of this House 200 ^{sd} merks, Scots; who deceast the 25 of August, 1707, and of his age 44,	11	2	2½
* 1708.	John Bryson, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this Hous 100 ^{sd} Pound Scots; who deceased the 18 of October, 1708, aged 76,	8	6	8
„	James Walkinshaw of that Ilk,	8	6	8
* „	Mr. Thomas Kennedy, Doctor of Medicine, Left to the Poor of this House 100 libs., Scots; who deceased the 23 day of February, 1708, in the 48 year of his age,	8	6	8
„	David Wotherspoon, Merchant,	8	6	8
* „	John Aitcheson of Rochsolloch, &c., Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of this House 100 ^{sd} Pounds Scots; who deceast the 28 of April, 1708, and of his age 77,	8	6	8
* „	James Coulter, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 15 Pounds, sterling; who deceased the 27 of July, 1708, aged 46,	15	0	0
* 1709.	James Robertson, elder, Merchant, Left to the Poor of this hous 100 ^{sd} Pounds, Scots; who deceast the 20 of July, 1709, and of his age 80,	8	6	8
* „	Alexander Carlile, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this house 100 Pounds, Scots; who died the 25 of October, 1709, and of his age 56,	8	6	8
* 1710.	Andrew Walls, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of this Hous 500 ^{sd} merks, Scots; who died January 26, 1710, and of his age 27,	27	15	6½
* „	John Anderson of Dowhill, Left to the Poor of this House 200 merks, Scots; who died September the 30, 1710, aged 75,	11	2	2½
* „	Thomas Baxter, Merchant-Taylor in Glasgow, left to the poor of the Merchants House 100 libs., Scots; who deceased the 27 day of December, 1710, in the 48 year of his age,	8	6	8
* 1711.	Patrick Gow, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 libs., Scots; who deceased the sixt day of February, 1711, in the 83 ^d year of his age,	8	6	8
„	Robert Rae, Dean of Guild,	8	6	8
* „	John Peadie son to James Peadie of Ruchhill, Merchant, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 lib., Scots; who Died April 13, 1711, in the 48 year of his age,	8	6	8
1712.	John Alexander of Blackhouse,	8	6	8
* „	William Blackburn, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 libs., Scots; who died Nov ^r 18, 1712, in the 59 year of his age,	8	6	8

* 1712.	Robert Anderson, Merchant, in Sant Lucar, in the Kingdom of Spain, left to the Poor of this House the sum of Six Hundered Pounds, Scots; who died the 31 day of January, 1712, in the sixty year of his age, late Clerk of Glasgow,	£50	0	0
* 1713.	James M'Bride, Town Clerk, left to the Poor of this House 200 lib., Scots; Died January 13, 1713, in the 69 year of his age,	16	13	4
* „	James Blair, Merc ^t in Glasgow, Mortified to this Hospitall Ten thousand merks, for ye maintenance of three old men and four boys; who died the 19 of March 1713, in the 61 year of his age. [Note.—This Mortification was in favour of Hutchesons' Hospital, by the Patrons of which Institution it is presently administered. The only donation received by the Merchants House was a sum of £100, Scots, in 1717].			
* „	William Wallace, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Merchants House 200 merks; who died the 8 August, 1713, and in the 69 year of his age,	11	2	2½
* „	William Donaldsone, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 lib., Scots. He died the 13 day of August, 1713, in the 39 year of his age,	8	6	8
* 1714.	Andrew Adam, Merchant in Glasgow, died the 26 th April, 1714, aged 40 years, left to the poor of this House ane hundered Pund, Scots,	8	6	8
„	Provost Johnston of Dumfries,	27	15	6½
* „	Adam Ritchie, Merchant, in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House One Hundred Pund, Scots; who died the 24 day of February, 1714, in the 61 year of his age,	8	6	8
1715.	James Govan, Merchant, Glasgow,	627	1	8
* 1716.	James Inglis, Elder, Merchant in Glasgow, who died the 29th January, 1716, left to the Poor of this House Ane Hundred Punds, Scots; aged 76 years,	8	6	8
* „	John Rea, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House One Hundred Pounds, Scots; who died the 12th of July, 1716, in the 56 year of his age,	8	6	8
„	Mr. Barclay,	5	11	1½
* 1717.	James Blair, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House One Hundred Lib., Scots; who died the 19 day of March, 1717,	8	6	8
* „	Andrew Cathcart, Merchant, left to the Poor of this House One Hundred and Twenty Pund, Scots; who died the 23 June, 1717, aged 63 years,	10	0	0

* 1717. James Peadie, Elder, late Provost of Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House the sum of One Hundred and Twenty Pounds, Scots; who died the First day of February, 1717, in the 78 year of his age,	£10	0	0
„ James Thomson, Tanner,	11	2	2½
* „ Hugh Wallace, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House One Hundred Pound, Scots; who died the 23 day of December, 1717, aged 67 years,	8	6	8
* 1718. Matthew Aitchesone, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ane Hundred Punds, Scots; who died the 24 day of August, 1718, in the 53 year of his age,	8	6	8
* „ Walter Colquhoun, Elder, Merchant in Glasgow, died the 22nd of January, 1718, aged 73 years, left to the Poor of this House Two Hundred Pound, Scots,	16	13	4
* „ Thomas Mackey of Langtonside—nigh Duke Street—Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House One Hundred Pounds, Scots; who departed this life the 8th of November, 1718, in the 46 year of his age,	8	6	8
* 1719. William Fleming, Merchant in Glasgow, gave to the Poor of the House One Hundred Lib., Scots, February, 1719,	8	6	8
* „ Mr. James Hillhouse, of the City of Bristol, Merchant, gave to the Poor of this House Five Hundred Libs., Scots, October, 1719,	41	13	4
* „ George Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House, One hundred Pund, Scots; Died the 25th March, 1719, the 29 year of his age,	8	6	8
* „ George Campbell, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ane Hundered Pund, Scots; who died the 21 day of May, 1719, aged 27 years,	8	6	8
* „ John Govean of Hogganfield, Merchant, Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House, Ten pounds, Sterling; who deceased the 26 of September, 1719, in the 68 year of his age,	10	0	0
* 1720. Claud Henderson, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 240 lib., Scots; who Died the 27 day of September, 1720, in the sixty year of his age,	20	0	0
„ Andrew M ^c Kinny, Merchant,	8	6	8
„ Janet Anderson,	11	2	2½
* „ Thomas Thomson, Merchant, late Dean of Guild of Glasgow, who died the 10 th of October, 1720, in the 49 th year of his age, left to the Poor of this House 240 Pound, Scotts. [Note. —There was, however, received by the House the Sum of 2,000 merks, in terms of their Bond granted of date 23 rd January, 1724],	111	2	2½

* 1720.	John Buchanan, Elder, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 29 day of February, 1720, the 53 rd year of his age,	£8 6 8
„	Patrick Bell, Merchant,	8 6 8
„	Mary Bell, relict of George Campbell,	8 6 8
* „	John Rae of Tannochside left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 22 nd of November, 1720, aged 25 years,	8 6 8
„	Andrew Gibson, Captain,	8 6 8
* 1721.	Alexander Colquhoun, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 120 Pound, Scots; who died the 2 nd day of October, 1721,	10 0 0
* „	William Smith, late Baillie, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pund, Sterl., aged 76, and died the 26 April, 1721,	10 0 0
„	Thomas Peters, Dean of Guild,	166 13 4
* „	Robert Campbell, Merchant in Stockholme, gave to the Poor of this House 20 lib., Sterling, 2 June, 1721,	20 0 0
„	John Graham of Dougalston,	5 11 1½
* „	William Gow, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to y ^e Poor of this House One Hundred Pund, Scots money. Died y ^e 23 rd of Sept ^r , 1721, in the 44 year of his age,	8 6 8
* 1722.	John Thomson, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left y ^e Poor of this House One Hundred Punds, Scots; who died y ^e 11 th of June, 1722, aged sixtie three years,	8 6 8
* „	Andrew Leitch, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the poor of the Merchant Rank 500 merks. He died the 13 of March, 1722, in the 53 rd year of his age,	27 15 6¾
„	John Todd, Merchant,	8 6 8
* „	James Maxwell of Maxworth, Merchant in Glasgow, left to y ^e Poor of this House One hundred libs., Scots; who died y ^e 20 th of April, 1722, aged 72 years,	8 6 8
* „	John Spreul, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to ye Poor of ye Merchants House One Hundred lib., Scots; who died y ^e 13 th Nov ^r , 1722, aged 77 years,	8 6 8
* „	Alexander Fullarton, Merchant in Glasgow, left in Legacy to the Merchants House of this City the sum of Five thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven pounds fourteen shillings and eight pennies, Scots money. He died y ^e First Day of August, 1722 years, in y ^e eighty year of his age,	481 9 6¾
* „	Margaret Balzie, relick of William Napier, late Provost of Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 Pounds, Scots; who died the 8 th day of January, 1722, aged 84,	8 6 8

1722.	John Boys and Janet Tarbet,	£10	8	8
*	„ John Bryson, Senior, Merch' in Glasgow, left to ye Poor of this House One Hundred and twentie lib., Scots; who died y ^e 9 th of April, 1722, in y ^e 72 nd year of his age,	10	0	0
* 1723.	John Bowman, late Provost of Glāsgow, left in Legacy a Hundred lib., Scots, to the Poor of y ^e Merchants House. He died Nov ^r 30, 1723, aged 67,	8	6	8
„	Jean Fleming of Milton,	10	0	0
*	„ Halbert Neilson, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 lbs., Scots, who died May 3 rd , 1723, aged 66 years,	8	6	8
„	John Aird, late Provost,	480	0	0
„	John Craig, Bursary at the College of Glasgow.			
1724.	John Bryson, Merchant,	8	6	8
*	„ Nille M ^c Allume, merch' in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merch ^{ts} House On hundred Punds, Scots money; who died ye 5 th Feb ^r , 1724 years, aged 56 years,	8	6	8
1725.	Henry Hamton, Merchant, Manchester,	8	6	8
„	Andrew M ^c Kean, Merchant-Taylor, London,	50	0	0
„	James Hunter, Merchant,	11	2	2½
*	„ Margaret Woddrop, Relict of Andrew Walls, Elder, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Merchants Poor 200 merks, Scots. Died 22 October, 1725, aged 75 years,	11	2	2½
*	„ William Arbuckle, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Ane Hundred Pounds, Scots. Died the 8 th of September, 1725, in the 69 th year of his age,	8	6	8
*	„ Robert Fead, Merchant in London, Gave to the Poor of this House Two hundred Pund, Scots, the 20 th day of May, 1725 years,	16	13	4
*	„ John Charters, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House One hundred pund, Scots, aged sixtie six years, and Died ye 16 June, 1725 years,	8	6	8
„	Robert Hampson for his brother,	8	6	8
1726.	Michael Hume, Merchant,	8	6	8
*	„ James Carlile, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of this House one hundred Pounds, Scots. He died the 13 th of April, 1726, aged 49 years,	8	6	8
*	„ One hundred Pounds, Scots, left to the Poor of the Merchants House By Margaret Nisbet of Dougaldstoun, relict of John Graham of Dougaldstoun. She died the 19 day of November, 1726, aged 66 years,	8	6	8
„	Andrew Craig, Merchant,	8	6	8

* 1727.	James Anderson, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots. Died the 9 th day of December, 1727, aged 69 years,	£8 6 8
* „	James Johnston, Senr., Merchant, late Baillie in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House two hundred pund, Scots. Died the 24 day of May, 1727, aged 55 years,	16 13 4
„	Margaret Dunlop, spouse of Robert Saunders,	8 6 8
1728.	Hugh Warden, Merchant,	8 6 8
* „	John Wallace of Ellerslie, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 7 th of January, 1726, aged 53 years,	8 6 8
* „	Isobell Bogle, Lawful daughter to the deceast James Bogle, Merchant in Glasgow, left to ye Poor of this House one hundred pound, Scots. Died the 25 day of April, 1728, and of [illegible]	8 6 8
„	William Knox,	10 0 0
* „	James Peadie of Ruchhill, Provost of Glasgow, Left to the Poor of y ^e Merchants House Twenty Pounds, ster. He died ye 27 of May, 1728, in the 54 th year of his age,	20 0 0
„	Robert Saunders of Auldhouse, The lands of Auldhouse, feued out for £37, 10s. per annum, and	611 2 2½
* 1730.	Gilbert Buchanan, late Dean of Guild of Glasgow, died the 27 December, 1720 years, aged 77 years, and left to the Poor of the Merchants House 500 merks,	27 15 6½
* „	James Colquhoun, Elder, of Langloan, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 26 th of August, 1730, aged 74 years,	8 6 8
„	John Graham,	8 6 8
* „	Malcom Stark, Merch ^t in Glasgow, died on 28 th of May, 1730, Left to y ^e Poor 100 lib., Scots; aged 21 years,	8 6 8
* „	William Carlile, Merchant in Glasgow, Died the 16 th Nov ^r , 1730, in the 44 th year of his age, left to the Poor, 100 lib., Scots,	8 6 8
1731.	Sir James Campbell of Houstoun,	10 0 0
* „	William Hamilton, Rector of the Grammar School of Glasgow, Died 6 th Sep ^r , 1731, aged 43 years, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 400 merks, Scots,	22 4 5½
„	John Luke of Claythorn,	222 4 5½
„	John Peadie of Ruchill,	20 0 0
* „	Hugh Black, Merchant in Glasgow, died the 23 day of August, 1731, aged 58 years, and left to the poor of the Merchants House, Ten Pounds, sterling. He died the 16 th Decemb ^r , 1753, in the 21 st year of his age,	8 6 8

* 1732.	John Crosse, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Twenty Pounds, sterling; who Died the 3 rd February, 1732, in the 61 year of his age,	£20	0	0
„	Michael Coulter, Merchant, late Baillie,	8	6	8
* „	Archibald Buchanan, younger, Merch ^t , Glasgow, Left to the Poor of the Merch ^{ts} House 100 lb., Scots; who Dyed the 29 th of March, 1732, aged 30 years,	8	6	8
„	Robert Campbell, Merchant,	10	0	0
1733.	Donaldson's Club,	210	0	0
* 1734.	Robert Bogle, elder, Merchant in Glasgow, late Bailie, left to the Poor of the Mert. House 300 pounds, Scots. Died the 24 th of Nov ^r , 1734,	25	0	0
* „	Peter Murdoch, Jun., Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 15 ^l Pound, Ste ^r . Dyed, 21st Feberwary, 1734, aged 29 years,	15	0	0
* „	George Thomson, Merchant in Glasgow, left An Hundred Pound, Scots, to the Poor of the Merchants House; who Dyed, Feberwary the 24 day, 1734, aged 62 years,	8	6	8
* „	James Dowgall, Merchant in Glasgow, died the 8 th of November, 1734, in the 37 year of his age, left to the Merchants House 100 liba, Scots,	8	6	8
„	John Adam, Merchant,	8	6	8
* 1735.	James Corbet, Sen ^r , Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Fifteen Pounds, sterling. Dyed the 29 th of August, 1735, y ^e 89 th year of his age,	15	0	0
* „	Sir Hugh Montgomery of Skelmurly, Baronet, dyed January 14 th , 1735, aged 71 years, left to the House One thousand merks, Scots,	55	11	1½
* 1736.	Robert Bogle, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merch ^{ts} House 15 Pounds, Sterl ^r . Died 24 th of March, 1736, age 45,	15	0	0
* „	Patrick Bogle, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 200 lib., Scots; who died y ^e 24 December, 1736 years, in the 63 year of his age,	16	13	4
* „	John Stirling, late Provost in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 200 merks, Scots. Died y ^e 27 of May, 1736, aged 59 years,	11	2	2½
* „	John Blackburn, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 liba, Scots; who died the 25 th of Decem ^r , 1736, in the 41 year of his age,	8	6	8
„	Michael Wallace, Merchant,	8	6	8
„	A certain Person,	5	0	0

* 1736. John Stark, late Provost of Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 120 lib., Scots. Died y ^e 19 of December, 1736, in ye 52 year of his age,	£10 0 0
* 1737. Dame Margaret Crawford, Relict of Sir William Stewart of Castlemilk, Bart., left to ye Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots. Died y ^e 28 th of March, 1737, in the 49 year of her age,	8 6 8
„ John Baird, Merchant,	15 0 0
„ James Newall, Merchant,	10 0 0
* 1738. William Anderson, Merch ^t , late Baylie of this City, left to ye Poor of this House 100 lb., Scots. Died ye 31 st of July, 1738, in ye 57 th year of his age,	8 6 8
„ John Dickson, Merchant,	8 6 8
* „ John Craig, Wright, late Baillie in Glasgow, left to ye Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died ye 25 of August, 1738, in ye 37 year of his age,	8 6 8
* „ Robert Hunter, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 20 of Decem ^r , 1738, in the 39 year of his age,	8 6 8
* 1739. William Bowman, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died on the 2 nd Jan ^r , 1739, in the 44 th year of his age,	10 0 0
„ James Lorimer, Merchant,	15 0 0
* 1740. S ^r Michael Steuart of Blackhall, att his mother's death, gave to the Poor of this House 9 guineas. She died the 20 th of May, 1740, in the 58 year of her age,	9 9 0
* „ The Exers. of James Peadie of Ruchhill, who died 20 th July, 1740, in ye tenth year of his age, gave Twenty Pounds, sterling, for the use of ye Poor of the Merchants Rank,	20 0 0
1741. James Speir, Merchant,	8 6 8
* 1742. Robert Dreghorn, Wright, late Deacon of the Wrights of Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died the 26 th day of June, 1742, in the 63 rd year of his age,	8 6 8
„ Robert Cross, Bailie,	10 0 0
* 1743. Bessie Bogle, relict of Robert Bogle, Sen ^r , Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100£, Scots; who died the 10th of September, in the 81 st year of her age,	8 6 8
1744. Matthew Crawford, Merchant,	15 0 0
* „ John Ritchie, Merch ^t in Glasgow, at the death of his son John, gave to the Poor of this House 100£, Scots. He died the 13 th of April, 1744, in the 23 year of his age,	8 6 8

* 1744. John Orr of Barrowfield left to the Poor of this House 25 L. S. D., Sterling. He died the 24 of August, 1744, in the 59 year of his age,	£25	0	0
* „ Robert Dunmoor, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House £15, Sterl. He died the 14 day of Oct ^r , 1744, in the 50 year of his age,	15	0	0
* 1745. Colline Campbell of Blythswood left to the Poor of this House 300 merks, Scots; who died the 7 th of April, 1745, in the 73 rd year of his age,	16	13	4
„ John Baird of Craigton,	10	10	0
* „ James Anderson, Jun ^r , Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 10 L. S. D., Sterl ^s ; who died the 5 day of Sept ^r , 1745, the 36 year of his age,	10	0	0
* „ George Leitch, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 10 L. S. D., Ster ^s ; who died the 23 day of Nov ^r , 1745, in the 34 year of his age,	10	0	0
* „ Mrs. Marion Perrie, Relict of Robert Luke, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Widows' Fund of this Hospital One Hundred Merks, Scots. She died in the year 1747, aged 63,	5	11	1½
* 1748. James Murdoch, Merchant, left to y ^e Poor of this House 10 Pounds, Sterling; who died 15 Janu ^r , 1748, in the 76 year of his age,	10	0	0
* „ Thomas Wallace of Cairnhill, Merch ^t , left to y ^e Poor of this House, 10£, Sterling; who died the 15 th of Aprill, 1748, in the 72 nd year of his age,	10	0	0
* „ John Robertson, Senior, Bookbinder in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling; who died 8 th June, 1748, in the 81 st year of his age,	10	0	0
* „ Robert Boyd, Merchant, left to y ^e Poor of this House 10 Guineas; who died ye 17 th August, 1748, in y ^e 66 year of his age,	10	10	0
„ Richard Bell, Merchant, Anderston,	8	6	8
„ Mary Ronald, relict of John Moll,	80	0	0
* „ James Smellie, Sen ^r , Merch ^t , left to ye Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died y ^e 2 ^d of Aug ^t , 1748, in y ^e 56 year of his age,	8	6	8
* 1749. Cap ^t Thomas Maxwell, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to y ^e Poor of this House 100 lib., Scots; who died y ^e 16 th of Nov ^r , 1749, in y ^e 53 year of his age,	8	6	8
„ John Robertson, Merchant,	25	0	0
* 1750. John Luke, late Bailie in Glasgow, left to y ^e Poor of this House 10 Pounds, Ster.; who died y ^e 12 of Jan ^r , 1750, in y ^e 52 year of his age,	10	0	0

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

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* 1750.	Thomas M'Elnory, Merch ^t , left to ye Poor of this House £100, Scots. Died y ^e 23 ^d Oct ^r , 1750, aged 52 years,	£8	6	8
* 1752.	John Bogle of Hamilton Farm, Merch ^t , left to the Poor of this House 20£, Sterl.; who died 13 th of Nov ^r , 1752, in the 73 ^d year of his age,	20	0	0
* „	James Smellie, Merch ^t , left to the Poor of this House 10£, Ste ^r , who died 15 Octb ^r , 1752, in the 25 year of his age,	10	0	0
„	Janet M'Kechnie,	5	11	1½
„	M ^r Newal, relict of James Newal,	5	0	0
* 1753.	George Bogle, Merchant and late Dean of Guild of this City, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died on the 13 th of March, 1753, in the 60 th year of his age,	10	0	0
* „	James Buchanan, Son to M ^r Neill Buchanan, late Merchant in London, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died the 16 th Decemb ^r , 1753, in the 21 st year of his age,	10	0	0
* 1754.	Alexander Finlayson of Boghall, who was Town-Clerk of Glasgow 41 years, left to the Poor of this House Sixty Pounds, Sterling. He died on the 11 th March, 1754, in the 87 year of his age,	60	0	0
„	William Bowman,	10	0	0
* „	Alexander Crawford, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died on the 15 th May, 1754, in the 31 st year of his age,	10	0	0
* „	Peter Murdoch, Merchant and late Provost of this City, gave to the Poor of this House in June, 1754, in his lifetime, and the 85 th year of his age, the sum of Twenty Pound, Sterling,	20	0	0
* „	James Crosbie, Esq ^r , Merchant and Mayor of Liverpool, when here in July, 1754, gave to the Poor of this House Twenty five Pounds, Sterling,	25	0	0
* „	Andrew Ramsay, Merchant and late Provost of this City, gave to the Poor of this House 100 Pounds, Scots. He died on 16 July, 1754, in the 68 year of his age,	8	6	8
* „	James Corbet, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Twelve Pounds, Sterling. He died on 31 July, 1754, in the 65 th year of his age,	12	0	0
„	John M'Gilchrist, Town-Clerk,	10	0	0
* „	Robert Rae of Little Govane left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died on the 4 th Sept ^r , 1754, in the 63 year of his age,	10	0	0
* 1755.	Adam Dougall, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House 100 lbs., Scots. He died Sept ^r 3 ^d , 1755, in the 77 th year of his age,	8	6	8

* 1755. John Ritchie, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Fifteen Guineas. He died Dec ^r 7, 1755, in the 65 th year of his age,	£15 15 0	
„ Margaret Bell,	111 2 2½	
* 1756. William Bogle of Bogleshole, Merch ^t in Glasgow, gave to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Ster ^l . He died Jan ^r 1 st , 1756, in the 28 year of his age,	10 0 0	
* „ Thomas Yuill of Darleith, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died June 26, 1756, in the 75 th year of his age,	10 0 0	
* „ James Anderson, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Ster ^l . He died Oct ^r 18, 1756, in the 73 ^d year of his age,	10 0 0	
* 1757. James Dunlop, Sen ^r of Househill, Merchant, left to the Poor of this House 100 lib., Scotts. He died the 7 th of May, 1757, in the 40 year of his age,	8 6 8	
* „ John Brown, Merchant and late Provost of this City, who introduced the present Sett of the Merchants House in 1747, left to the Poor Ten Pounds, Ster ^l . He died April 28, 1757, aged 63,	10 0 0	
* „ Robert Yuill of Darleith left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died the 16 th Aug ^t , 1757, aged 39 years,	10 0 0	
„ Lady Craigends,	10 0 0	
* 1758. John Gray, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Ster ^l . He dyed Dec ^r 5 th , 1758, aged 90 years,	10 0 0	
1759. George Ronald,	5 0 0	
„ Samuel McCall, Merchant,	15 0 0	
* „ John Hamilton, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Twenty Pounds, Sterling. He died 31 March, 1759, in the 56 year of his age,	20 0 0	
* „ Mr. Thomas Wallace, Merchant in Glasgow, who Died the 21 st Day of April, 1759, in the 40 th year of his age, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Ten Pounds, Sterling,	10 0 0	
* „ James Luke, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He died in Italy, upon the 8 day of May, 1759, in the 29 year of his age,	10 0 0	
* „ Andrew Buchanan, Esq ^r , of Drumpellier, Merchant and late Provost of Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Twenty Pounds, Stg. Died the 20 th of December, 1759, in the sixty-ninth year of his age,	20 0 0	
* „ Mr. Hugh Brown, Merchant in Glasgow, who died the 12 day of Septemb ^r , 1759, in the 39 year of his age, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Ten Guineas,	10 10 0	

* 1759.	Mr. Robert Young, from the West Indies, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House, Ten Guineas. He died the 3 ^d day of December, 1759, in the 37 year of his age,	£10	10	0
1760.	James Donald, late Baillie,	20	0	0
* „	Mr. Robert Dreghorn of Blochairn, Merchant in Glasgow, who Died the 9 th December, 1760, in the 52 ^d year of his age, left Ten Pound, Sterling, to the Poor of the Merchants House,	10	0	0
* 1761.	Mr. Archibald Buchanan, Merchant in Glasgow, late Baillie, who Died the 12 th of March, 1761, in the 59 th year of his age, left Twenty Pounds, Sterling, to the Poor of the Merchants House,	20	0	0
* „	Robert Scott of Killearn, who died the 30 of March, 1761, in the 63 year of his age, Left Ten Pounds, Sterling, to the Poor of the Merchants House,	10	0	0
* 1762.	M ^{rs} Martha Miller, relict of John Luke of Claythorn, left the Poor of the Merchants House Ten Guineas. Died 13 th April, 1762, aged 86 years,	10	10	0
* „	Robert Dunlop of Househill, Esq ^r , Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House 15 Pounds, Sterling. He died 13 th May, 1762, in the 63 rd year of his age,	15	0	0
* „	George Buchanan, Esq ^r of Mount Vernon, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of the Merchants House Twenty Pounds, Sterling; who Died the 20 th day of July, 1762, in the 34 th year of his age,	20	0	0
* „	James Mitchell, Sen ^r , Merchant in Glasgow, Died 6 th Dec ^r , 1762, in the 69 th year of his age, and Left to the Poor of the Merchants House Twenty Pounds, Sterling,	20	0	0
* „	John Rae, Esq ^r of Little Govan, Left to the poor of the Merchants House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He Died 1 st Aug ^t , 1767, aged 45 years,	10	0	0
* „	M ^r William Dunlop, Senior, Merchant in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merchants House Ten Pounds, Sterling; who died 2 ^d May, 1762, in the 69 th year of his age,	10	0	0
„	Miss Janet Donald,	10	0	0
* 1763.	William McCall, Merchant in Glasgow, who died the 10 th day of January, 1763, in the 45 th year of his age, left £10, Sterling, to the Poor of the Merchants House,	10	0	0
* „	M ^r Alex ^r Oswald of Scotstoun, Merchant in Glasgow, who died the 24 th day of Jan ^r , 1763, in the 69 th year of his age. He left to the Poor of the Merchants House 10 Pound, Sterling,	10	0	0
* „	John Cochran, Jun ^r , Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of the Merchants House Ten Pounds, Sterling. Died Jan ^r 29 th , 1763, in the 56 th year of his age,	10	0	0

* 1763.	John Murdoch, Merchant in Glasgow, late Baillie, left to the poor of the Merchants Houses Ten pounds, Sterling. He died Feb. 3 ^d , 1763, in the 57 th year of his age,	£10	0	0
„	Robert Scott, Merchant,	10	0	0
* „	M ^{rs} Elizabeth Graham, relict of Rob ^t Bogle, late Merch ^t in Glasgow, Died 5 th Decem ^r , 1763, in the 79 th year of her age, and left to the Poor of the Merchants House 10£, Sterling,	10	0	0
* 1764.	Laurence Dinwiddie of Germiston, Esq ^r , Merchant in Glasgow, Died 3 ^d of May, 1764, in the 68 th year of his age, and Left to the Poor of the Merch ^{ts} House 200 Merks, Scots,	11	2	2½
* „	M ^r Laurence Scot, Banker, Merch ^t in Glasgow, left to the Poor of the Merch ^{ts} House 10£, Sterlg. He died 5 th Oct ^r , 1764, in the 70 th year of his age,	10	0	0
„	Allan Dreghorn, of Ruchill,	21	0	0
* 1767.	George Kippin, Tobacconist, died 15 th July, 1767, aged 53 years, left to this House Ten Pounds, Sterling,	10	0	0
* „	M ^r James French, Merchant, left Ten pounds, Sterling. He died 1 st November, 1767, aged 67 years,	10	0	0
„	William Corbett, Merchant in Boston, and son of James Corbett, Merchant in Glasgow, Left to the Poor of this House Ten Pounds, Sterling. He Dyed the 4 th Jan ^r , 1768, aged 34 years,	10	0	0
„	John Wilson, Sen., Merchant,	10	0	0
„	Alexander Mackie, late Bailie,	15	0	0
„	Richard Oswald of Scotstoun,	10	0	0
„	M ^{rs} Glassford,	10	0	0
„	Bessie Bogle, Lady Ruchill,	11	2	2½
1768.	John Wilson of Shieldhall,	300	0	0
1769.	Patrick Clark, Merchant,	10	0	0
„	Laurence Colquhoun of Killermont,	20	0	0
„	James Spreull, Merchant,	100	0	0
„	Andrew Gray of Newlands,	10	0	0
„	Alexander Campbell, late Bailie,	10	0	0
1770.	Robert Brock, Merchant,	5	11	1½
„	Robert Dinwiddie, Governor of Virginia,	50	0	0
„	Archibald Coats, Sen., Merchant,	20	0	0
1771.	William Crawford of Possil,	10	0	0
„	Archibald Ingram, late Provost,	20	0	0
„	James Clark, late Bailie,	10	0	0
1772.	M ^{rs} Jean Muir, or Sommerville, at one time a Pensioner of the House,	40	0	0
„	John Jamieson, late Bailie,	10	0	0

1772.	Janet Spreull, relict of Captain Maxwell,	£10	0	0
„	George Carmichael, late Bailie,	10	0	0
„	Andrew Aiton, late Provost,	8	6	8
„	Walter Brisbane, late Bailie,	10	0	0
„	William Gray of Wellhouse,	30	0	0
1773.	Alexander Cunningham, Merchant,	5	5	0
1775.	John Campbell, Merchant,	31	10	0
„	Jean Murdoch, daughter of Zechariah Murdoch,	5	0	0
„	Elizabeth Smith, relict of James Mitchell,	20	0	0
„	John Murdoch, late Provost,	50	0	0
1776.	Mrs. Grizel Spreull,	10	0	0
1777.	James Wardrop of Springbank,	20	0	0
„	Andrew Cochran, late Provost,	21	0	0
„	Colin Dunlop, late Provost,	20	0	0
„	Alexander Houstoun of Jordanhill,	20	0	0
1780.	M ^r Jean Gilhagie or Bogle,	5	0	0
„	Harry Horsburgh, Merchant,	10	0	0
1781.	Margaret Murdoch,	5	0	0
„	M ^r Mary Mackay or Corbett,	10	0	0
1782.	James Johnston, Merchant,	20	0	0
„	Alexander Crichton, Merchant,	21	0	0
„	Thomas Hopkirk of Dalbeth,	15	0	0
„	Archibald Coats, Merchant,	10	0	0
„	John Buchanan, Writer,	5	0	0
1783.	George Brown, late Dean of Guild,	10	10	0
„	John Dougall, Merchant,	8	6	8
„	Alexander Speirs of Elderslie,	20	0	0
„	John Glassford of Dougalston,	20	0	0
1784.	Thomas Dunlop, Merchant,	20	0	0
1785.	M ^r Margaret Spreull,	10	0	0
„	John Balmano, Druggist,	10	0	0
„	George Crawford, Merchant,	21	0	0
„	James Oswald, Merchant,	20	0	0
„	Daniel Baxter, Bookseller,	20	0	0
„	Andrew Marshall, Merchant,	20	0	0
1787.	Charles Selkirk, Merchant,	50	0	0
„	John Clark, Merchant,	21	0	0
1788.	George Millar of Frankfield,	20	0	0
„	James Coulter, Merchant,	25	0	0
1790.	William Lang, late Bailie,	10	0	0
„	Thomas Dunmore, Merchant,	10	10	0
1792.	Margaret Smyth, spouse to George Oswald of Scotstoun,	10	10	0
1793.	D ^r James Oswald, Minister of the gospel at Methven,	20	0	0

1794. Margaret Coulter, daughter of the late John Coulter, Merchant and Lord Provost,	£20	0	0
1796. James Dennistoun of Colgrain,	20	0	0
„ John Auchincloss,	10	10	0
1798. Christian Dunlop,	30	0	0
1799. J. McGregor,	21	0	0
1803. Alexander Low, late Dean of Guild,	20	0	0
1804. James McCaul,	20	0	0
„ John Campbell of Clathie,	25	0	0
„ M ^r Dennistoun of Colgrain, and Miss Marion Dreghorn,	25	0	0
1807. Provost John Buchanan,	50	0	0
„ John Leitch,	50	0	0
1808. Alexander Donaldson,	20	0	0
„ Miss Elizabeth Rae,	150	0	0
1815. James Smith of Craighead,	25	0	0
1816. John Smith of Craigend,	50	0	0
1820. Colin Dunlop, of Port-Glasgow,	5	5	0
1821. David Carrick Buchanan,	100	0	0
1822. Archibald Smith of Jordanhill,	50	0	0
„ George Oswald,	100	0	0
1824. Adam Crooks, £100, less duty,	90	0	0
1827. James Murdoch, £100, less duty and adding interest,	94	14	6
„ William Jamieson, £100, less duty,	90	0	0
1828. James Wardrop, £100, less duty, £10,	90	0	0
1845. John Ryburn,	100	0	0
1850. John Kingan, 5 Shares Forth and Clyde Canal Stock at par,	500	0	0
„ M ^r Mary Buchanan, or Speirs, of Polmont Park, relict of Alexander Speirs, Esq. of Elderslie, with interest, 2s. 6d.,	2,000	2	6
1856. Robert Baird of Auchmeden, Trustees of the late,	1,000	0	0
1857. John Ferguson, Cairnbrock, Trustees of the late,	500	0	0
1858. James Buchanan, postponed till the death of his Widow,	10,000	0	0
1859. John Crum, £200, less duty, &c., £21, 1s.,	178	19	0
1860. James Ewing of Strathleven,	31,000	0	0
„ Daniel Gilchrist,	50	0	0
1861. Robert Jamieson's Representatives,	1,000	0	0
„ John Cree,	100	0	0
1862. Alexander Baird of Urie, £500, less tax, £50,	450	0	0
„ Colin Campbell of Colgrain, in terms of Minute of 16 th July, 1862,	672	0	0
1863. William Warren, £300, less duty, £30,	270	0	0
1864. Thomas Buchanan, £2,200 5 % Caledonian Railway Stock, in terms of Minute of 26 th March, 1864,	2,475	0	0
1866. John Graham Gilbert of Yorkhill,	1,200	0	0

ABSTRACT OF MORTIFICATIONS

IN FAVOUR OF

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE OF GLASGOW.

Mortification by JOHN MURE, Shipper, Burgess of Glasgow, dated
31st July, 1602.

Be it kend to all men be yir pnt Leteris, Me Johnne Mure, Shipper, burges of glasgow, ffor ye luife y^t I beir to godis glorie and to ye poore w^t in ye toun and citie of glasgow, pnt and to cum, quha most pray to God for me, my preservatioun during my lyftyme, and my Successors eftir me, To have dedicatit, dottit, and gevin, as be y^r pntis dedicatis, dottis, and gevis, To ye poore mds y^t feris god w^t in ye said citie to be stallit in ye almous hous biggit in ye briggait of glasgow, ane zeirlic ground anuell of ffourtie Schillingis perpetuallie. . . (Here follows a narrative of the Ground Annual.) . . . Prowyding y^t I, ye said Joⁿ M^r, during my lyftyme, have power to apply ye said fourtie schillingis ground anuell to quhat poore w^t in ye said citie y^t feiris god y^t I sall think maist expedient; and eft my deces y^t ye m^r of ye said almous hous have power to ressave ye said fourtie schillingis ground anuell, and apply ye samyn to ye poore to be stallit in ye said almous hous for the tyme for ever. . . . In witnes heirof, I have subscryvit thir pntis w^t my awn hand, at Glasgow, the penult day of Julii, ye zeir of god Jaj Sex hundredet twa zeiris, Before yir witness—Joⁿ neving of Birkwood, Michael Mayne, george M^r, donald M^cKellar, burgess of Glasgow, and M^r Joⁿ Allex^r, ye writer heirof.

(Sic Sub^t) Jhone Muir, with my hand, Johnne Nevin of Birkwood, notar witnes, georg^e Muir, vitnes, Michall Mayne, witness, M^r Joⁿ Allex^r, no^t witnes.

Mortification by M^r ZACHARY BOYD, Minister of the Barony
Parish of Glasgow, in favour of the Merchants House of
Glasgow, dated 8th December, 1635, and Recorded in the
Books of Council and Session 17th March, 1636.

Att Glasgow ye Aucht day of De^r, the zeir of God Jmvi and threttie fyve zeirs, It is appoyntit and agreit betuix ye descreit persones parteis wnderwr^tin, that is to say, M^r Zacharias Boyd, mi^r of Chrystis Evangel att ye Barony Kirk of Glasgow, on

ye ane part; Johne Barnes, pnt Deane of Gild of ye said Burgh of Glasgow, Patrick Bell, Proveist, Coleine Campbell, elder, Heurie Glen, Bailzies, M^r W^m Stewart, Walt. Stirling, James Hamilton, James Bell, George Louk, George Porterfield, Ar^d Faulds, James Tran, Jn^o Birsat, Thomas Morsoun, yo^r, Ro^t Campbell, Coleine Campbell, yor., George Barclay, Joⁿ Andersone, Joⁿ Herbertsone, Adame Ritchie, Joⁿ Gilmor, James Millar, W^m Cunynghame, Thomas Glen, Thomas Norvell, Joⁿ Marshall, Ro^t Bogill, Niniane Andersone, Thomas Brown, Joⁿ Russell, Mathow Hamilton, Peter Patoun, Ro^t Hamiltone, Joⁿ Schiells, Peter Gemmell, W^m Robiesone, Ro^t Millar, Joⁿ Orr, and W^m Hynshaw, his Councill of ye merch^t rank, on ye ayer part, in maner, forme, and effect following. . . (Here is narrated the receipt by the Dean of Guild of the sum of £1,000, Scots, from Mr. Zachary Boyd, and of an obligation of the House to pay him the interest thereof during his life.) . . And becaus the sd M^r Zacharias hes mortified, dedicat, and appoyntit the sowme of Ane Thowsand punds money for ye glory of God, and y^t for the education of ane Student of Theologie, such as it shall pleas the Deane of Gild and his Councill, of ye Mer^d rank of ye said burgh, and yr successors in office to nominat and mak choyse of, Thairfore ye said Joⁿ Barnes pnt deane of Gild and his said Councill of ye Mer^d rank w^t in ye said Burgh, binds and obliessis yem and y^r successors in office, after ye said M^r Zacharias his deceis to imploy ye sd sowme of ane Thowsand Punds money upone lands, heritages, or annual rent, and give and bestow ye annual rent yrof, swa far as ye samen will extend for ye mantainence of ane Student of Theologie of ye maist godlie and fitting for ye said place, swa far as they sall be able to discerne: and y^t w^t in ye Colledge of ye said Burgh, and ye said Student to be putit be ye said Deane of Gild and his Councill of ye sd mer^d rank w^t in ye samen, and yr successors in office, as patrones yrof zeirle and proportionallie, furth and frae ye deceis of ye said M^r Zacharias, to ye Priull of ye said Colledge, or to any uyr Professor of Theologie quha sall happin to be admittit and have place w^t in ye samen to y^t effect. And ye said Student to remain w^t in ye said Colledge during ye space of twa zeirs, or longer, as the said patrones sall think meit and expedient, he not exceiding four zeirs. Lykeas it is agreit betuix ye said parties y^t ye sd Student shall be ane Burgess sone of ye said Burgh, and ane of ye mer^d rank, and if ony of ye name of Boyd, beand ane Burgess sone of ye mer^d rank w^t in ye said Burgh, and readie and worthie ye supplie of ye place, to be preferrit yrto befor any uy^r; And if nane of all these sall be found, yan som uyer, qm ye saids Patrones sall mak choys of and be fund maist capable, sall be preferrit to the said place, to ye end y^t ye fores^d sowme above mortified for ye use fors^d be not divertit or employit to any uyer use. Lykeas it is agriet betuix ye saids parties, That if it sall happen ye fores^d Student of Theologie to have his fay^r and moy^r in life and dwelling w^t in yis burgh, and had ray^r remaine in household w^t yem, yan to be burdid himself in ye Colledge, in y^t caice ye said Deane of Gild and his said Councill of ye mer^d rank, obliesses yem and yr successors in office to mak payment to the s^d Student, efter ye deceis of ye said M^r Zacharias, of ye full annuel rent of ye said sowme of ane Thowsand punds money at ye termes aboue wrin, for sustentation of him in household w^t his said parentis. . . . In Witness qrof yir putis wrin be Joⁿ Andersone, servitor to M^r Joⁿ Hutchesone of Scotiston, they have sub^t as follows—day, zeir, and place fors^d, Before yir witnesses

ye said M^r Joⁿ Hutchesone, W^m Zair, Walt. Ly^tbody not., ye said John Andersone, his servitors (Sic. Sub^r), Joⁿ Barnes, Deane of Gild, P. Bell, Col. Campbell, Hen. Glen, W^m Stewart, Walt. Stirling, Ja. Hamiltoun, Ja. Bell, Geo. Louk, Ar^d Foulis, Jac Trane, Jo. Birsat, Ro^t Campbell, Col. Campbell, Geo. Barclay, Jo. Herbertsone, J. Ritchie, Jo. Gilmur, Ja. Millar, W. Cunynghame, Tho. Glen, Tho. Norvell, Ro^t Bogle, Ro^t Hamilton, Joⁿ Scheills, Peit. Gemmel, W^m Robesone, Ma. Hamilton, W^m Hyndshaw, Joⁿ Orr, M. Za. Boyd, J. Andersone, Witness, W^m Watt, Witness.

Memorandum respecting the Mortification by PATRICK BELL,
Merchant in Glasgow, dated 4th December, 1641.

Patrick Bell, Merchant in Glasgow, 4th December, 1641, Mortified to the Merchants Hospital 2,000 Merks, to be lent out on good security, or laid out upon land, the interest or rent of which to be distributed annually by the Dean of Guild and Collector, with one of his heirs, and one of the Ministers of Glasgow, and four of the Deacons of the Kirk, to be chosen by the Dean of Guild on the first and second Tuesday of January each year, unto the most indigent within the City, of whatever rank, condition, or sex, so as not to exceed 5 S., Sterling, or under 20 D., to any of them. The names of the persons who receive, to be inserted in a book and subscribed yearly by the Dean of Guild, by one of M^r Bell's heirs, and by one of the Ministers of the Burgh.

Assignation by JOHN BELL, Provost, and ROBERT CORSE, one of
the Bailies of the Burgh of Glasgow, in favour of the Merchants House, dated 2nd October, 1682.

Bee it kend till all men by thir pnt Lres, we, John Bell, proveist of Glasgow, and Robert Corse, ane of the pnt bailies of the sd burgh, ffor the tender respect and charitie wee have and bear to the poore of the merd rank within the said burgh, And for advancement of a provisiōe for ther mentinānce in the said merchand hospitall, And for Inabling of the dean of gild, pnt or to come, alsweell to mentaine the poore in the sd hospitall, as to give pensiones and allowance to the poor decayed merchants not actually receavit in the hospitall, ther wives and children, as the dean of gild's hous hes beine in use, And for Inabling and Incouradging the dean of gild and his successors in their building of that great Lodging now foundit be them in Glasgow for the behove of the sd poor, and for the ornament of the citie; Thairfor Witt yee us to have mortified, assigned, and dispoñed, As be the tenor heirof, wee, ilke ane of us, for our oune pairts, and us both, with ane Consent, mortifies, assignes, and dispoñes, to the dean of gild of the sd burgh, and his brethrine of counsell of the mert rank, and yr collector, and to ther successors in office, for the behoove of the merchand rank, to the intent fairsaid, All and qtsoever, unlaws, fynes, and penalties belonging to us, or aither of us, be the Lawes of this realme, As incurit be the Inhabitants of the sd burgh, or any of them, by disorderlie baptissimes, marriadges, keeping of house or field con-

venticles, w'drawing fra the publict ordinances, or be transgressing of any vyr penall Statuts constitut be the Law and practic of this realme, aither by authoritie of parliat or by the constitutione of the burgh; And that also weel already declarit and liquidated be sentences, as sall heireft be declaired and liquidated, swa far as the sds fynes and unlaues belongit to us, or aither of us, and sall be found dew and competent to us, or aither of us, and sall be found dew and competent to be exacted in Law; Admittand the generalitie heiroyf to be also valid and sufficient, as if everie particular heiroyf were heir-intill regrt and exprest, And dispensand yranent forever. And Surrogatts, Substituts, and Imputs, the sd dean of gild, his brethren, collector, and their successors, in our full places, right, tittle, and place, of the haill premiss, with full power to them to call and pseu, therfor decree yron obtaine, cause execut the same, Compone, Transact, and agree theranent, dischairges upon payt to grant, and generallie to doo all and sundrie vyr things needful or requisit concerning the premiss, also amplie in all respects as wee, or aither of us, might, or could, have done ourselves at or befor the daite heiroyf. Qrat wee obliess us to Abyd firme and stable, but reclama^{une}, And to warrant thir pnts from our oun proper facte and deed; onlie Declairand allwayes that in caise the persones unlawit for baptissimes, mariadges, and w'drawing, give securitie for yr orderlie behavior in tyme coming, that the sds unlaues sall not be exacted. Consenting, thir pnts be regrat in the books of Cowncill and Sessione, or any vryrs Competent, therein to remaine for memorie, & Constituts

Esme Stewart, wryt in Glasgow, are Sub^d At Glasgow, this second day of October, Javj flour scoir two yeirs, befor thir Witness, David Sumervell, Servitor to me, the sd John Bell and the sd Esme Stewart, Declairand allwayes, Lykas it is hereby speciallie, that George Bogill, W^m Napier, and Jon. Corse, and John Louk of clythorn, and James Padie of Ruchill, all merts in Glasgow, are onlie to be fyned conforme to the sds merts that are decerned in six pound; daite and witness forsd

(Si Sub^d) John Bell, Proveist.
Robert Corse, Baillie.
David Somrvell, Witness.
Esme Stewart, Witness.

Mortification of eight pence in the pound Scots of their wages by
the SHIPPERS and MARINERS belonging to the Burgh of Glas-
gow, for behoof of poor and decayed Merchants and Mariners,
dated 25th, 26th, and January, and 1687.

Be it knowen to all men Be thir pnts, We, under Subscryvers, ffor ourselves And in name of the haill oyr shippers and Mariners belonging to the Burgh of Glasgow and ports thereof, ffor the speciall Love and respect Wee have and bear to all fundationes and Mortificationes made for maintenance of honest poore, And specially ffor the speciall Love and favore wee have and bear to the poore decayed members of the merchant rank of the Burgh of Glasgow, And poore decayed Mariners belonging yerto

and ports therof; Thairfor Witt ye us to have mortified, dotted, and dispooned, Lykas wee herby mortifie, dott, & dispoone to and in favors of the sds poore decayed merchants & mariners All and Haill the soume of Eight pennies Scots money of each punds Scots of wages that shall be earned and wone by us, and each of us, ffor our service and Employment in any Ships belonging to the sd Burgh of Glasgow, And merchants therof, or therintill, they or any of them shall have interest; And of qlk soume of Eight pennies of each punds Scotts of our sd wages wee obleiss us to make payment thankfully and punctually att the retorne of each voyage, the one just and equall halfe yrof to the collector of the Merchants Hospitall ffor the tyme, ffor the behoove of the poore of the merchant rank, And the vȳr halfe yrof to such persone or persones as we, the sds shippers and masters, shall think fit to appoynt collectors ffor the behoove of the poore decayed mariners in the coast syd; the collector of the four pennies sall be a man living in the coast syd, not secluding ye mrs living in Glasgow fra having yr vott in chysing ye sd collector, or in distribution of ye sd four pennies. Also, that all suparcargoes sall be lyable as mrs and marinars. In wittness qrof wee have Subscryved two duplicates herof (ane qrof wee have delyvered to the Collector of the merchants hospitall ffor the poor decayed merchants, the vȳr to whom wee have appoynted Collector for the poor decayed seamen). Att Glasgow, also neir Port-Glasgow, the twentie fyft, & twentie sext, & dayes of Januarii, &

Javj and Eightie seavin yeirs, Before thir witnesses to the sub'nes, att Glasgow, the first dyett, Richard Manuell, wryter in Glasgow, and Patrick Park wt ther wrt of the first date & yr witness.

(Sic Sub^r)

W ^m Cochraue.	James Rae.	J. Barnes.
George Robisone.	Jon. Leckie.	
James Bogill.	W ^m Craig.	James Hamilton.
John Brounlie.	Ja. Blair.	Ro ^t Campbell.
Tho. Arethur, yor.	G. Lyon.	Johne Walkinshaw, old ^r .
J. Ritchie.	James Wilsoun.	William Walkinshaw.
Alex ^r Knox.	James Wilsoune, elder.	John Walkinshaw, yor.
Tho. Weir.	Andrew M ^c Goun.	Jo. Rankin.
James Gibsone.	Will ^m Campbell.	Jon Gossan.
Patrick Bell.	James Sinkler.	James Walkinshaw.
John Miller, yr.	Quentoin Craufford.	Geo. Johnstone.
James Campbell.	Ja. Gallbreth.	John Thomsoune.
	Alex ^r Watsoun.	William Crauford.
	James Scott.	Will. Wallace.
	Archibald Mackie.	L. Wallace.
	William Scott.	Robb Gibson.
	David Mackie.	Ro. M ^c Millan.
	John Miller.	Jo. Andersone.
W ^m Bogill, yor.	Ja. Crawford.	James Corbett.
Thomas Peter.	John Brysoun.	Archibald Rae.

Mortification by JOHN CRAIG, Merchant in Glasgow, in favor of the Merchants House, endowing a Bursary at the College, dated 6th March, 1697.

Be it known to all men by these prett, Letters, me, J^m Craig, Merchant in Glasgow, forasmuch as . . . (Here follows the narrative of a Bond for 2,000 merks over a Tenement on the South Side of the Trongate, and of a Personal Bond for 500 merks, both assigned to the Merchants House.) . . . And now I hereby designing the Glory of God, the advancement of piety, learning, and literature, within the University & Colledge of Glasgow, and for the dew benevolence, good will, and respect I have and bear towards the Master of the same, and for other causes me moving hereunto, Therefore to have dotted, freely given, mortified, and dispoⁿed To and in favours of Sir John Maxwell of Nether Pollock, Knight and baronet, rector; Masters W^m Dunlop, prin^{tl}; Patrick Simpson, dean of Faculty; James Wodrow, Professor; John Tran, John Boyd, Garshom Carmichael, John Law, Regents, and their successors in office, within the sd University and Colledge of Glasgow, for the use, weel, and behoove of ane Student of Philosophy, who is to be entertained out of the yearly @ rent, All & Haill the foresaid yearly @ rent, of fourscore punds money forsd, or such ane yearly @ rent as shall be correspondent to the forsaid prinⁿ Sum of Two Thousand merks money forsd, and as the yearlie @ rent of twenty punds money forsd, or such ane yearlie @ rent as shall be corresponedent to the foresaid sum of five hundred merks, Scots. Extending the sds two prinⁿ sums to two thousand five hundred merks, yearlie @ rent yrof to ane hundred punds, or such @ rent as shall be correspondent for ye time; Providing alwayes, and Likeas it is hereby expressly provided, That any ane of my near relations and kindred, which failzeing, any other of the name of Craig, shall be preferred and admitted ye forsd yearlie maintenance, in ye forsd Studie of Philosophie, by courses, who shall be presented be the Dean of Guilds, their brethern & council of ye merch^t rank and yr succrs in office, within ye sd burgh of Glasgow, Whom I hereby Nominate & Appoint as patrons for presenting of the said Student, and ye sds Rector, prin^{tl}, & Masters forsd, by acceptance hereof, w^t yr succrs in office, becomes obliet to accept of the said Student or Schollar, within ye sd Colledge, to ye forsd maintenance, in maner forsd, & cause teach him by Course yearly, being presented in maner @ wrin

Minute of the Merchants House, containing the terms of the Mortification by JOHN GRAHAME of Dougalston, 11th October, 1705.

The Eleventh day of October, 1705 years. The Whilk Day John Grahame, now of Dougalston, In obedience to the deceast John Grahame of Dougalston, his father's desyre on his deathbed, the (six) day of Jany, 1700 years, Did Give up to John Bowman, present Dean of Gild, and Robert M^cGown, Collector of the Merchants

houss, ane bond granted by the Magistrats & toun Counsell of the said burgh to the said umq^h John Grahame, for the soume of ane thousand punds, Scots money, dated the 21 of August, 1675, with @ rent from Cand^s, 1676, as the said bond in itself more fully bears, Together with ane translatione thereto; Which soume, with @ rent yrof, swa long as the sam shall happen to remain unpaid, was mortified by the defunct to the Mert^r hous in the tearmes following, viz^t.:—

That the said prinⁿ soum & @ rent being accumulate, should be lent out by the Dean of Gild & collector for the tyme, and their successors in office, for the use and behove of the poor of the Merchants Rank of the said burgh, with and under the provisions following, to witt: That in case it should happen any Merchants, relatione of the said defunct or his successors, To be indigent and standing in need of supplie, Then upon their applicatione to the Deau of Gild and members of the merchants hous, The saids persons, Indigent as said is, are to be preferred to the @ rent of the said prinⁿ sum; And if ther beis but on of the said persones, That is only to be allowed as much of quarterlie pensione as any other pensioner of the house, out of the said @ rent. And In caise ther beis none of the defunct, nor his successors, merchants in the said burgh, standing in need of the said supplie, Then any of the name of Grahame, being merchants within the samyn, to be preferred to the said @ rent, and the saids indigent persones allways to be recommendit by the saids Mortifier's successors, and preferred accordinglie.

Mortification by JAMES GOVAN, Merchant in Glasgow, in favour of the Merchants House, dated 28th July, 1709, and, with Codicil thereto, registered in the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, 17th September, 1711.

I, James Govan, Merchant in Glasgow, Considering that where I, by my Latter will and testament subscribed by me of the date hereof, Have nominated and appointed John Govan of Hogganfield, mer^t in Glasgow, my brother, my sole and only Exor., intromitter, and universal Legatar, Excepting the particulars therein and afterspeit, of my hail goods, gear, debts, sums of money, maills, rents, and Dutys of my Lands, Insight, plenishing, Gold, silver, coined and uncoined, eutonulls, and Domuills, and oysr qtsomever resting, and that shall be pertaining to me the time of my Decease, and yrby hath ordained my said brother to pay to Jean Tran, my spouse, the sum of five hundred pounds, Scots money, yearly during her lifetime after my decease, at twa terms in the year, Whitsunday and Martinmas be equal portions; as also I have legate and bequeathed to my said spouse my hail insight and plenishing, Except my books, as to which books I have ordained to be given to my said spouse after my decease a Dozen of practical pieces of Divinity or history, either in octavos or fedecimos, as she pleases to make choice of, beside her Bibles—viz^t, her marriage Bible, an oyr in quarto, and an oyr in two

volumes in little octavos gilded, with a little house bible; and as to the rest of my books Have ordained them to be kept by my said brother, to be disposed of by him in manner as I should appoint by a paper apart, which I am now by thir presents to do: And sichlike by my sd latter will and testam^t I have legate, bequeathed, and mortified to the poor aftermentioned ane thousand Ginnies of Gold, which I have inclosed in a bag sealed with black wax, with the Seal of the Galley, and have ordained and appointed my sd brother immediately after my decease to Deliver and pay in the sd ane thousand ginnies of Gold to the Dean of Gild, Collector, and Members of the Merchants house of Glasgow for the time, to be lodged and remain in yr hands in all time coming, To the effect they and yr Successors in office may be forthcoming and bound for the yearly @ rent yrof, and the sd @ rent applied yearly towards the maintainence of twenty poor men, burgesses, inhabitants of the sd City of Glasgow, not under forty years of age, whose parents were born in the said city, qrof eleven to be of the Merchant rank, and nine of the Trades rank, they being always of honest reputation, and having no maintainence provided to them oyrways, either by the Mert^r house or Trades house of the said City of Glasgow, or oyrways supplied by any Hospital in the said City, and which poor persons foresaid are to be presented to the sd benefice, and the @ rent of the sd ane thousand ginnies of gold, Distributed and Divided among them in manner and Conform as I should appoint and Determine by a paper apart signed by me, which I am now to do, As my said latter will and testament bears. Therefore, in the first place, I do by these presents Ratife and approve of the sd latter will and testament, and legacy, and mortification yrin spec^d, of the sd an thousand ginnies of gold, in favours of the @ named twenty poor persons, and Do of new again mortifie, legat, and bequeath the said one thousand ginnies of gold, which I have Inclosed in a bag sealed with black wax, with the Seal of the Galley, as said is, To the for^m poor in manner and to the effect as is above, and more parlarly after exprest. And I do ordain and appoint the said John Govan, my said brother, immediately after my decease, to deliver and pay in the sd an thousand ginnies of gold to the sd Dean of Gild, Collector, and members of the sd Mert^r house of Glasgow for the time, to the effect @ spec^d. And I do earnestly request, Intreat, and beseech the sd Dean of Gild, Collector, and Members of the sd Mert^r house to receive the sd one thousand ginnies of gold, mortified by me as said is, for the use of the poor foresaid, into yr hands, To be lodged and remain in yr hands in all time coming; and they and yr successors in office to become bound and obliged for payment of the @ rent yrof to the sds twenty poor persons by quarterly paym^t in manner as is hereafter appointed and ordained. And I ordain and appoint that the power of the nomination and presentation of the sds twenty poor men to the sd benefice Be always and in all time coming lodged in the person of the said John Govan, my broyr, during his life time, and failzieing of him by decease, in the person of James Peadie, yor, in Glasgow, and James Hamilton, yor of Aikenhead, his sons-in-law, conlly, and failzieing of any of ym by decease, in the person of the oyr of them surviving, and failzieing of both of them be decease, in the persons of the eldest son of the sd James Peadie, and of the sd James Hamilton, for the time,

procreate betwixt ym, and my said broyr, his daughters, their spouses, they being major at the time, and after the sds sons yr Deceases, their eldest sons succeeding them, and failzieing of them by Decease or during yr minority, in the person of M^r John Govan, Minister of the Gospell at Campsie, and failzieing of him, in the person of his eldest son procreat of his body, and failzieing of all of them, to be lodged in the person of the nearest heir male of line of the sd John Govan, my broyr, successive one after another, which all failzieing, The sd power of nomination and presentation of the sd poor men, To be lodged in the person of the magistrates and toun Council of Glasgow for the time, and yr successors in office. Item.—I ordain and appoint that the sd poor men's nomination and presentation be all booked and recorded in the books belonging to the sd Mert^r house successively as they are presented, and y^t the @ rent of the sd one thousand ginnies of gold be Divided equally amongst the sds twenty poor men, qrof eleven to be of the mer^t rank, and nine of the Trades rank, and y^t due and punctuale paym^t yrof be made to them be the Collector of the sd mert^r house quarterly, without receipt. Likeways, I ordain and appoint that the said poor men to be nominated and presented as said is, shall continue in the enjoying of their benefice during yr lifetime; with power to those @ named to whom the power of nomination and presentation of the said poor men is committed to take tryal and knowledge of the said poor men, yr Deportment and Conversation, and if found unsuitable and unseemly, by their being guilty of any gross outbreakings and scandalous carriages, or addicted to vice, profanity, and immorality, To suspend or deprive such of them of their benefice, and Declare yr places vacant, and install and place others in yr room. And I do will and ordain that the said persons to whom the power of the nomination and presentation of the sds poor persons is committed, That in yr said presentation they have a special regard and respect to the quality and degree of the sds poor persons—viz^t, y^t they be such who are burgesses, inhabitants of the sd City of Glasgow, not under forty years of age, whose parents were born in the said City, of honest reputation, and who have no maintainence provided to ym oyrways, either by the Mert^r house or Trades house of the said City, or oyrways supplied by any Hospital in the sd City, and that yr be eleven of the sd poor men of the mer^t rank, and the oyr nine of the trades rank. Moreover, I ordain and appoint that the sds poor men be furnished with purple gowns, and to be worn by them each Lord's day, and to go to church with the sds Garbs. And for defraying of the Expenses yrof, I empower the forsd persons who have the power of the saids poor persons, yr nomination and presentation, To draw precepts yrfore upon the sd Mert^r house, to be allowed in the first end of the poor man's benefice. And I recommend to the Dean of Gild of the City To provide Seats either in the Tron Church or new Church of this City for the sds poor men, and that thré saids poor men do attend at the burials when required, with yr garbs, and take up yr place by ymselves, betwixt two files of the Town officers, and go to the church yard in y^t order, with this provision always, that each of the saids poor men who attend the sds burials get payment of one shilling sterling for yr pains, from those interested in the funeral. And Whereas I have by my disposition of the date

hereof, Disponed to the said John Govan, my brother, my tenem^t of land, with the closs and houses yrin, and yard at the back yrof, I do will and ordain That my said broyr build up the mid wast lands with vaults upon the ground, for Cellars and Coalhouses to the tenents in the Close, and make six seall apartments above, fit for the fores^d poor men to lodge in, viz^t, such of yin as the persons who have the power of yr presentation shall appoint, and to make another room there, where I ordain my said brother to put my books, and those to be keeped, that the sds poor men may have the use of them for yr edification, To which they are to have free access; And I ordain an Inventory of them to be taken up by my said brother, that non of them be lost; And q^t further may be requisite and necessar in order to the managem^t of the sd mortification, I Leave to the prudence of my said broyr, and the oyr persons who may succeed him in the nomination and presentation of the sds poor men. And I do Expect That my spouse will not be wanting in q^t she may gain by her liferent and put to the fore, To destinat the same towards the forsyd poor men, by adding the same to my said Mortification, which I refer to herself; and lastly, I ordain that thir presents be recorded in the books of both the Merch^{ts} and Trades house of this City, As also that they caus put up an broad in both the hospitalls belonging to the sds houses, containing a short abbreviary of this my Mortification. . . .

I, James Govan, Mer^t in Glasgow, Considering that ye mortification @ wrin, and latter will in reference yr^{to}, of the date the twenty-eight of July, Javj, and nine years, The above an thousand ginnies, of gold is mortified by me for the behoof of twenty poor men; yet, in respect That ye @ rent of the sd an thousand ginnies, when distributed among them, will be but a small mantainence to ym, Therefore, and upon oyr Considerations me yrunto moving, I do hereby restrict the sd number of twenty poor persons to be presented to my said mortification to the number of twelve poor persons allenarly, All of them burgesses and Gild bretherin, inhabitants of the sd burgh of Glasgow, ymselves and parents, yr father at least, born in the sd City yrof; seven of ym to be mert^t, and five of the trades rank. And further, I considering That by the sd mortification the sd ane thousand ginnies of gold is ordained to be lodged and remain in the hands of the sd mert^t house, and they to become bound for paym^t of the @ rent yrof, in manner con^t in the sd mortification, which I conceive may prove a burden upon the sd mert^t house for the mantance of the five poor tradesmen foresaid, belonging to yr house; Therefore, for the sd mert^t house yr further ease, and to ye effect they may be relieved and disburdened of the sd five poor men of the trades rank as said is, I do now will and ordain That the proportion of the said ane thousand ginnies of gold, mortified as said is, arising to the part of the five poor men of the trades rank, and to be applied for yr mantainence, Be lodged and paid in by the said John Govan, my brother and Exor, immediately after my decease, to the said Trades house of the said burgh of Glasgow and members yrof, to Remain in yr hands in all time coming after my decease, And the said Trades house to be bound for the @ rent yrof, towards the mantainence of the said five

poor men of the trades rank, to be paid to them quarterly, in manner specified in my Mortification. And I do ordain the sd John Govan, my brother and Exor, to pay in the said ane thousand ginnies accordingly, to the sd two houses of Mert^a and Trades, betwixt ym in proportion effeiring to the sd poor men of the mert^a rank—qrof John Barns, my Cusing german, I ordain for the share of two men of the mer^t rank during his lifetime, without any burden of proceeding at burials or putting on the Garb men^t in my @ said mortification, and the five poor men of the trades rank, marked and subscribed in the margin; And Albeit it should happen that the sd ane thousand ginnies which is Declared by my said latter will and mortification to be laid by and enclosed in a bag sealed, with black wax, with the Seal of the Galley, at my decease not to be found yrin, or yet y^t albeit the samen should be lent out or oyrways disposed of by me, yet, notwithstanding yrof, the samen shall no ways prejudice or invalidat my sd mortification, But shall stand firm and entire; and the sd John Govan shall be obliged to pay in the sd ane thousand ginnies, out of the first end of my means y^t shall be belonging to me the time of my decease, And appoints him to pay in the samen to the Mert^a and Trades houses accordingly; And lastly, to y^t part of my mortification ordaining my brother to build and repair the mid wast land for the behoof of the sd poor men, I leaves y^t to his own pleasure to dispose, build or not build, as he thinks fit, allenarly. . . .

Bond granted by the Merchants House for the due fulfilment and containing the terms of the Mortification by THOMAS PETER, Merchant, and late Dean of Guild, to the Merchants House, dated, said Bond, 17th November, 1709.

Be it known to all men by these presents, Us, Thomas Smith, present Dean of Gild of the Burgh of Glasgow, and John Whythill, present Collector to the Merchants House of the sd burgh, and remanent members of the sd Merchants House under-subscriyving, for ourselves and as representing the haill Merchant rank of the sd burgh of Glasgow, fforasmuch as Thomas Peter, Merchant, and late Dean of Gild of the sd burgh of Glasgow, hath, for his zeal for the glory of God, and out of Christian charity, love, and affection, for the support of his fellow-creatures, advanced, payed, and delivered to us, as representing the sd Merchants House, and which we have applyd for the behoove yrof, the soume of Three Thousand Merks, Scots Money, Qch he hath dotted and mortified as a perpetual Stock, to remain in our hands for ever, the @ rent whereof he hath destinat, after his own decease, for the Sustentation and maintainance of ane old, decayed and poor, honest man of the Merch^a rank of the sd burgh, with preference in the first place to one of the surname of Peter, who is a burgess and Gild brother, inhabitant of the sd burgh of Glasgow; Therefore, witt ye us to be bound and obligyt, likeas we by thir presents Bind and oblige us and our successors in office—Dean of Gild

and Collector and Members of the sd Merchants House of the sd burgh of Glasgow—to make good and thankfull payment of the @ rent of the prinⁿ soume of Three Thousand Merks to the sd Thomas Peter, at his dwelling-house, during all the days of his lyfetime, and that yearly at the term of Martimess, beginning the first terms payment yrof at the term of Martimess, Javj and ten years, for the year immediately preceeding, and so furth yearly yrefter, during the lifetime of the sd Thomas Peter, and we bind and oblige us and our sd successors in office, immediately after the deceise of the sd Thomas Peter, whensoever ye same shall happen, to nominat, appoynt, input, and keep in the sd Merch^t Hospitall ane old, decayed, poor, honest burges, gild brother and inhabitant of the sd burgh of Glasgow, of the Merchant rank, and, as he shall happen to die, to supply and fill up his room from time to time, with preference always in the first place to those of the surname of Peter, being in the circumstances and qualified as aforsd, and to make payment to the sd old person, nominat and input as sd is, of the @ rent of the sd Three thousand Merks, and that yearly in all time coming, and at four terms in the year—Candlemess, Whytsunday, Lambass, and Martimess, be equal portions, begining the first term's payment yrof at the first term of the above four terms immediately following the deceise of the sd Thomas Peter, and so furth thereafter in all time coming, and if any more than one term's @ rent shall be then dew by reason that the sd @ rent is only payable to the sd Thomas Peter himself once in the year, in that case the sd @ rent that shall be then dew, as sd is, shall be applyd to the behoove of the oyr poor of the Merchants House; And to the effect the sd mortification of the forsd soume, or any oyr soume that may be mortified by him to the sd Merchants House, may be the more publick and nottour, and that it may never be in the power of any of our successors to suppress or innovat so good and pious a design, we hereby oblige us and our successors in office to cause record thir presents in the Books of the sd Merchants House, and to State the sd Mortification as a debt upon the sd House in all time coming, and to affix ane abstract hereof upon the wall of the Merchants Hospitall, and to renew the same from time to time as occasion shall require; and we also consent that execution shall pass against us and our successors in office in case of suppression, innovation, or misapplication of the above Mortification, at the instance of the Magistrates and Town Councill of Glasgow, for making the above fund furthcoming to the end and use above mentioned. . . .

Agreement between the MERCHANTS in Glasgow and FOREIGN TRADERS concerned in Shipping, and Obligation by them, to retain two pence in the Pound, Sterling, off the wages of all Masters and Seamen employed by them, for relief of poor decayed mariners, dated 18th April, 1718.

Be it knowen to all men by thir presents, Wee Undersubscribers, Merchants in Glasgow, and forraign Traders concerned in Shipping, Conform to the example of our

worthie predecessors, who, in ye year Javj and nintie six, oblidge themselves, for the reliefe and support of poor decayed Seamen, thair wives and Children, to stop and uplift from all Saillors in their employ some little supply for them, For as much as the necessities of poor decayed Saillors, their widdowes and children, are frequent and evident to us, And that ye Merchant house, Considering thair owen poor, cannot support them, we think ourselves, in Justice and Christian Charitie, Oblidge to Doe something for them; And in regard that, since our Union w^t England, six pence, pr mensem, is Exacted from every Saillor for ye use of Greenidge hospitall, whereby our Saillors cannot allow so much as formerly, Therefore we Merchants and forraign traders foresaid, w^t the advice and consent of Masters of Shipes of Glasgow and Port Glasgow, or dependant on us, or Employed by us, Doe hereby Bind and Oblidge us and ilk ane of us, for our owen partes, To stop and keep in our owen handes, off and from every master and seaman, To be employed by us and each of us in tyme coming, After the first day of May next, only the sum of Twa pennies, Scots, out of every pound, Scots, which is Two pence, Sterling, out of every pound, Sterling, out of the saids Masters and Seamens wages employed or To bee employed by us in all tyme coming, And to make thankfull pay^t of the samine to the Collector apointed for that effect, In maner after mentioned. And for the better manandge^t of so Good and Charitable a Design, we Doe hereby Empower ye present and succeeding Dean of Gilds of Glasgow, and recomend to them that he call a meeting in ye Merchant house of the whole forraign trading merch^t in Glasgow and those Concerned in Shiping, upon the third Tuesday of January every year, to Choise six of thair Number to Joyn w^t the Dean of Guild as a Comittee for manadgen^t of the said twa pennies of the pound, And for Choosing a Collector who is to bee Empowered by them to uplift and Ingather the said twa pennies of the pound, And to pursue those who refuses to pay ye same; And which Comittee are to have power to dispose and apply ye said twa pennies, so to be uplifted, by warrants from ye Dean of Gild or any of the Comittee themselves, shall appoint for suplying the necessities of the saids poor decayed Seamen and thair wives and Children, not only resideing within this burgh, butt of Strangers who may be passing through ye same in Distress; As also the said Comittee are to meet as frequently as they think fitt, for ye said manadgen^t, And that they Continue for two years after ye 3^d Tuesday in January, bees cho sen; And that the Collectors Acco^{ts} be read and Examined in presence of the saids whole trading Mercht^t once every year, upon ye sd third Tuesday of January; And a new Collector chosen or ye same continued for ye next yeir, who cannot Continue above Two years successively, And the Comittee not to Continue above twa years, Att the end of which tyme a new Comittee to bee chosen, The Dean of Gild for ye tyme alwayes to bee one of sd Comittee, And that no person vote in making sd Committees butt such as are actuall forraign Traders or owners or masters of shipes. In witness whereof we have Subscriyved these presents, written by Thomas Thomson, merch^t in Glasgow, Att Glasgow, the Eighteenth day of Apryle, One thous: seven hundred and eighteen years, being on Stamp^t paper, before these witnesses, James Christie, merch^t in Glasg^o, and James Robb, Merchant there.

(Sic Sub ^r)	R. Wilmington.	Robert Smith.
	John M ^c Gown, Elder.	Ralph Rodger.
	Thomas Wallace.	Jo ⁿ Orr.
	Matthew Atchisone.	Hugh Rodger.
	Thomas Clark.	John Gray.
	John Blackburn.	John Riddell.
	James Maxwell.	Laurence Dinwiddie.
	J. Grahame.	John Wallace.
	Andrew Gibson.	Daniel Campbell.
	William Gow.	Hugh Millikin.
	Pat. Houston.	William Craige.
	Henry Smith.	Mich. Wallace.
	Arthur Grein.	Robert Robertson.
	John Mitchell.	Tho ^s Thomson.
	Jn ^o Coulter.	Ch. Miller.
	Matt. Dinwiddie.	Will ^m Anderson.
	Patrick Buchanan.	S. M ^c Caull.
	Matthew Crawford.	Jn ^o Stark.
	John Bogle.	Thomas Hanna.
	John Robisone.	Rob ^t Boyd.
	William Douglas.	Charles Craufurd.
	James Henderson.	Jo. M ^c Gown, jr.
	James Johnson, Jun ^r .	John Stirling.
	James Christie, Witness.	
	James Robb, Witness.	

Mortification by Provost JOHN AIRD, of Glasgow, in favour of the
 Merchants House, dated 7th September, 1723, and recorded in
 the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, 23rd March, 1757.

Be it known to all men by these presents, me, John Aird, Merchant, present
 Provost of Glasgow, For as much as I, considering That I have no Children, procreat
 of my body, and being resolved that my lands aftermentioned, which at the time do
 yield and pay nine hundred merks of yearly rent, Should, after my decease, failzeing of
 Children, procreat of my body, Be in all time thereafter, and for ever, Mortified and
 employed to a public and pious use, for the end and to the effect in manner as is after
 exprest; Therefore Witt ye me To have Mortified and Disponed, as I by the tenor
 hereof, failzeing of Children, to be lawfully procreat of my body, of my present, or any
 other Subsequent marriage, Or tho' there should be Children procreat of my said body
 on life the time of my decease, but yet deceasing before they attain to their age of Twenty-
 one years compleat, or marriage, In that event, and no other ways, Give, Grant,

Mortify, and for ever Dispone, heritably and irredeemably, from me, my heirs, and all others, my Assigneys, To and in favours of Gilbert Buchanan, Dean of Gild of the City of Glasgow, and James Christie, Collector to the Merchants House of the said City of Glasgow, and their successors in office, for themselves, And in name and behalf of the said Merchants House, for the use, weell, and behoof of the poor thereof, All and Sundry, My Lands, Tenements, Houses, Buildings, and others. . . (Here is given a description of the Lands disposed, which were subsequently sold by the Merchants House, see Minute of 19th December, 1752, Page 172.) . . And In like manner It is hereby expressly provided and declared That thir presents are granted by me To and in favours of the said Merchants House, with and under the express burdens, provisions, and conditions particularly after exprest, Which they, by their acceptation hereof, Bind and Oblige them to perform, fulfill, and observe, in all points, viz^t,—That they shall make payment out of the subject above disposed, and means and Common Stock of the said Merchants House yearly, and ilk year in all time from and after the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas, which of them shall first happen next after the decease of the last liver of me, the said John Aird and Katherine Campbell, my spouse, Or the decease of the Children to be procreat of my body, that may be surviving our deceases, but deceasing before their said age of Twenty one years compleat, or marriage, Of the sums of money underwritten, To the Poor aftermentioned, viz^t,—Of the soume of ane hundred pounds, Scots money, yearly, To ane poor old man of the Merchant rank, Burgess and Gild brother of the said City, who has been of Credite, And is of good and Christian fame and reputation ; And of the sum of ane hundred Merks, Scots money, yearly, to each of three poor widows, Residenters in the said City, of honest report, Who are Relicts of Merchants, Burgess and Gild brother thereof, Or of any of the Ministers of the said City who are in want, And that for their support and maintenance, According as they shall be presented and Nominated to the said Merchants House by the persons underwritten, viz^t,—The Magistrates, Dean of Gild, Deacon Convener, and Ministers of the said City of Glasgow, for the time being, The immediate late Provost for the time, and Ralph Fairlie, Merchant in Glasgow, While in life And in Glasgow, Whom I hereby Will and Ordain to have the power of nomination and presentation to the said Merchants House, of the saids four poor persons, And according as they shall Nominate and Present, The said Merchants House, By their acceptation hereof, shall be bound and obliged to receive and admitt, And make payment of the yearly maintenance foresaid, to the saids four poor persons, by quarterly payments during their lifetimes ; And I hereby Will and Ordain That the saids persons to be nominated and presented from time to time to the benefice foresaid shall be of the age of fourty five years at least, and not under ; And I ordain that the saids Merchants House do keep a particular register and record of the several presentations and admissions of the saids poor persons from time to time, Which shall contain likeways an Abbreviary of thir presents and heads thereof, And Lykeways That the above named persons, who have the power of presentation and nomination, Do record thir presents in a book, to be Keeped by the Magistrates, With the Names of the Poor nominated and presented by them from time to time, and their Sederunts thereupon ;

And I hereby Nominate and Appoint the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow to be Overseers of this my mortification, That the same, in the whole heads and articles thereof, be duly and punctually fulfilled and performed by the said Merchants House, according as is above mentioned, and as is prestable by and obligatory upon them, With power to the saids Magistrates and Council of Glasgow to Sue for implement and fulfilling of the same, And to do all things necessary for that effect. . . .

Minute of the Merchants House, of date 11th January, 1724,
relative to THOMAS THOMSON'S Mortification.

The sd day John Thomson, son to the deceist Thomas Thomson, Mer^t in Glasgow, represented That his deceist father had mortified and burdened him w^t Two thousand merks to the poor of Glasgow, to be payd in to the dean of Gild of Glasgow and members of the Mercht^s house, That the @ rent yrof may yearly be payd by the Coll^r, upon the 8 of decem^r, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the Laigh Kirk, to the most indigent and deserving poor of q'soever sex, imployment, or age, without distinction; and, for that end, the dean of gild for the time, the day before the distribution, to call one or more of the ministers of the City, and ane elder, or deacon rather, of every parish of the same, with one of the nearest of his kin in life, That these together may inform themselves of the proper objects of this Charity, and state their Quota, qch is not to be above a Crown to one, nor under Twenty Shilling, Scots; and the minister, relation, and deacons to be present next day with the dean of Gild at the distribution. And that in pursuance of his said fayr^r will, he was willing instantly to pay them the sd Two Thousand Merks, upon the House's bond to apply the @ rent yrof in the terms @ wrin; and desired that the effigie of his father might be drawn and put up in the house, containing ane abbreviat of the sd Mortification, and of what he had formerly mortified. Qch being heard and considered by the house, they ordain the Coll^r to receive the sd Two Thousand Merks, and impower the dean of gild and him to give bond in the terms forsd, and to cause put up the defunct's picture as is desired.

(1.) Mortification and Assignation by ROBERT SANDERS of Auldhouse, in favour of the Merchants House of Glasgow, dated 10th November, 1726, and recorded in the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, the 20th January, 1730.

Be it known to all men by these presents, Me, Robert Sanders of Auldhouse, for certain important and weighty causes and considerations me moveing, To have mortified, Assigned, and Disponed, As I by these presents, To the end and for the effect after-specified, Mortify, Assign, and Dispone To and in favours of James Peadie, Dean of Gild of the City of Glasgow, and James Chrystie, Collector to the Merchants House of the

said City, and their successors in office, for themselves and in name and for the behoove of the said Merchants House, All and Hail The soume of Ane thousand merks, Scots money, of principal. And I hereby Will and Ordain, That they shall lay out the same upon responsall bond or other sufficient Security for annual rent, And when the said principall Soume, With the growing annual rent thereupon, shall amount to the soume of Two thousand merks, Scots money, That the said Two thousand merks be made in a principall soume, And lent out by the said Merchants House, Or retained in their own hand, for payment of the annual rent thereof, Conform to Law. And which Annual rent of the said Two thousand Merks yearly, as the same becomes due, I Will and Ordain To be allocat, applyed, and laid out by the Merchants House for a Prentice fie to a poor boy, lawful Son of a Burgess of the Crafts rank and Freeman of the Corporation of his Craft within the City of Glasgow, of honest reputation, And that yearly, and ilk year, as the said Prentice boy shall be presented yearly to the said Merchants House, by the persons after-named, to whom I have committed the power of presentation; And which Prentice is to be put to any lawfull calling of the Crafts rank within the said City, As the said Boy's Parents or Relations shall think proper, during the ordinary space of time that is or shall be accustomed for Prentices of such Crafts. And I hereby Will and Ordain That the power of presentation of the said Prentice boy yearly, be lodged in the person of. . . (His Nephews, therein-named, and their heirs male, a failure of all whom occurred many years ago.) . . And failzeing of all of my said Nephews and aires male descending and procreat of their bodys, I hereby Declare That the power of presentation and admission of the said Prentice boy shall in all time thereafter Devolve upon and be lodged in the hands of the Dean of Gild, Collector, and Members of the said Merchants House. . . . Declaring hereby, and I hereby Will and Ordain, That these who shall apply for the benefice foresaid, and be of the name of Sanders, Corbet, Colhoun, Wodrop, or Dunlop, and qualified as is above written, shall have the preference of all others to be presented by my saids Nephews and their aires male above specified, and failzeing any of that name applying, Any other qualified as said is, My said Nephews and their aires male, who have the power of presentation for the time, shall think fit to present, And if there be two, three, or more of the said name of Sanders, Corbet, Colquhoun, Wodrop, and Dunlop applying at one time, Then it shall be in the power of my saids Nephews and their heirs male, haveing the power of presentation for the time, to present Which of that name They think fit and are most needfull. . . .

(2.) Disposition and Mortification by ROBERT SANDERS of Auldhouse, in favour of the Merchants House, dated 9th February, 1728, and recorded in the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, 31st August, 1731.

Be it known to all men by these presents, me, Robert Sanders of Auldhouse, Printer in Glasgow, For as much as it has pleased God to bless me with a considerable

stock of worldly means, And Considering that I have no children procreate of my body, And being resolved that my lands and Estate aftermentioned should after my decease, failing of children procreate of my body, be in all time thereafter and forever mortified and employed to a public and pious use, And for the end and to the effect in manner as is after Expressed: Therefore witt ye me To have mortified and disposed as I by the tenor hereof, failling of children to be lawfully procreated of my body of any future marriage to be hereafter solemnized by me, or though there should be children procreated of my said body in life the time of my decease, but yet deceasing before they attain to the age of twenty one years complete or marriage, In that event, and no otherways, and with and under the special provisions, conditions, Reservations, and burdens after expressed, Give, Grant, Mortify, and for ever dispoone heritably and Irredeemably from me, my heirs, and all others, my Assignees, To and in favours of Hugh Rodger, Dean of Gild of the City of Glasgow, and James Christie, Collector to the Merchants House of the said City of Glasgow, and their successors in office, for themselves, and in name and behalf of the said Merchants House, for the use, well, and behoof of the poor decayed members thereof, And for the use and behoof of the prentices and ane student of divinity aftermentioned, in manner as is after expressed, All and Hail that my five merk land of old extent of Auldhouse, with the manor place thereof, houses, biggings, yards, Orchyards, Mosses, Muirs, meadows, and haill parts, pendicles, priviledges, and pertinents thereto belonging, And sicklike, All and Hail that my Mains of Kirkland of Eastwood, Extending to ane thirteen shilling four penny land of Old Extent, with houses, bigings, yards, Orchyards, Mosses, Muirs, meadows, and haill parts, pendicles, priviledges, and pertinents of the same whatsoever, All lying within the parochine of Eastwood, and sheriffdom of Renfrew, and specially bounded as in the original charters thereof. . . . And in like manner, It is hereby Expressly provided and declared that ther presents are granted by me, To and in favors of the said Merchants House, with and under the express burdens, provisions, and Conditions particularly aftermentioned, which they, by their acceptation hereof, bind and oblige them to perform, fulfill, and observe in all parts, vizt.:—That they shall make payment yearly, and ilk year in all time coming, from and after the expiration of year and day after my decease, of the sum of five hundred merks, Scots money, to be applied in manner after mentioned, Commencing the payment thereof upon the term of Martinmas first ensuing after the expiration of year and day after my decease, And so furth yearly thereafter, at the term of Martinmas in all time coming; which five hundred Merks money foresaid shall be applied and laid out by the said Merchants house for Setting and putting of five poor boys of honest parents, burgesses of the City of Glasgow, Whereof three of them sons of Merchants and two sons of Tradesmen, yearly and Ilk year, to be apprentices to any lawful honest trade or calling within the City of Glasgow, as their parents or relations shall think proper, during the ordinary space and time that is or shall be accustomed for prentices of the said several Crafts and Callings respective, being one hundred Merks, Scots money, to each of the said boys, And likeways, that they shall make payment to a young man of honest parents, burges of the said burgh, And of a good Conversation, who has past

his course of Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, And is following his studies in divinity in the said University, In order to become a preacher of the Gospel, of the sum of One hundred pounds, Scots money, And that yearly and during ilk year of five years, Commencing the first year's payment of the said One hundred pounds at the same term or time when the foresaid prentices' gratuities or prentice fees shall commence, and become payable, And that for enabling the said student to continue in the prosecution of his said study in divinity; And at the end, and upon the Expiring of the saids five years, The said benefite or Burse of ane hundred pounds yearly is to be bestowed upon and paid to another young man of the qualifications and for the use and end foresaid, And so changed and bestowed at the end of each five years successively, in all time coming, after the commencement, as said is, upon young men of the qualifications and for the end above mentioned, who, and each of them successive after others, shall continue in the injoying of the said benefice of One hundred pounds, Scots money, yearly, for the number and space of five years after each of their several admissions. And in case any of the saids young men, during the course and running of his said five years, happen to decease before the expiring thereof, or shall be found by the Professor of Divinity, in the said University of Glasgow, not to be a proficient in the said studie, or shall quit and leave the said profession and his studies in divinity, or shall be preferred to any other benefice, or shall be placed in and get the charge of a Congregation, and become a minister of the Gospell: Then, and in either of these cases, the person so enjoying and in the possession of the foresaid burse and benefice, shall from thenceforth amit and loose the said burse and benefite, And another young man of the qualifications foresaid shall be presented and Installed in the said burse, whose five years shall commence from his being presented and admitted thereunto. And it is thereby declared that in case of children lawfully procreated of my body, in life after my decease, but deceasing before their age of twenty-one years, or marriage, That then and in that case the payment of the saids prentice fees and divinity burse shall be superseded to year and day after the saids children their decease, and to the Martinmass thereafter next ensuing. And I hereby will and Ordain that the power of presentation of the saids prentice boys and students of divinity be lodged, in the first place, in the person of Ja^a Colquhoun, younger, Merchant in Glasgow, son lawful to James Colhoun, elder, Merch^t there, during his lifetime; And after his decease, in the person of Robert Colquhoun, Merchant in Glasgow, eldest lawful son to the deceased Walter Colhoun, Merchant there, during his lifetime; And upon his decease, in the person of William Colhoun, second lawful son to the said Walter Colhoun, during his lifetime; And upon his decease, in the person of Walter Colhoun, third lawful son to the said Walter Colhoun, during his lifetime; And upon his decease, in the person of John Woddrop, Writer in Glasgow, son to umq^a John Woddrop, late Baillie of Glasgow, during his lifetime,—all my Nephews. . . . And upon the decease of all of my nephews, I hereby declare that the power of presentation and admission of the saids prentice boys, and student of divinity foresaid, shall in all time thereafter devolve upon and be lodged in the hands of the said Dean of Gild and Collector and Members of the said Merch^t house; And when the power of

presentation and admission shall, upon the decease of my saids nephews, come to be devolved in the person of the said Merchants house, Then I hereby Will and Ordain that, in the first place, these of my own blood relations be preferred ; And next to those of the foresaid names of Sanders, Corbet, Colhoun, and Woddrop, if they apply, They being always sons of burgesses of Glasgow, as said is, And that without any vote to be stated thereupon, Except there be more of the name foresaid applying than the number of the boys and student to be presented and admitted at the time ; In that case they are to be voted upon whom of them are to be preferred, the said Merchants house always having a special regard to my said Mortification, that there be always of the prentices three sons of Merchants and two sons of Tradesmen ; . . . and I ordain and appoint the saids Merch^{ts} house, as they, by their acceptation hereof, bind and oblige themselves, to convene yearly, in their said Merchants hall, on the said second Tuesday of November yearly, To receive the saids presentations, And Admit and receive the saids boys accordingly ; And if these of my nephews who have the power of presentation for the time amitt or fail to present, Then it shall be in the power of the Dean of Gild, Collector, and Members of the said Merch^{ts} house, to present and admit the saids boys themselves, and that so often as my saids nephews shall omit or fail to present as said is ; And when the power of presentation shall come, in progress of time, to be devolved and lodged in the hands of the said Merchants house, by the decease of my saids nephews, That the said house continue to meet yearly upon the day fores^d, to present, nominate, and admit the saids five prentice boys ; And likewise, if found a proper time, that upon the same day they present and nominate the student of divinity, according as the burse falls in course to be filled up ; And I ordain that the saids Merchants house do keep a particular Register and Record of the several presentations and admissions of the said prentice boys and student of divinity, from time to time, which shall contain likewise an abbreviary of these presents and heads thereof ; And I hereby nominate and appoint the Magistrates and Council of Glasgow to be overseers of this my Mortification, That the same, in the haill heads and articles thereof, be duly and punctually fulfilled and performed by the said Merchants house, according as is above mentioned, and as prestable by and obligatory on them, with power to the saids Magistrates and Council to sue for Implement and fulfilling of the same, and to do all things necessary for that effect ; And lastly, it is hereby expressly provided and declared, That in case I shall happen to have aires lawfully procreate of my body in life at the time of my decease, and Exist until they attain to the age of twenty-one years, or marriage, That then, and in that case, these presents shall become void and extinct, as if the same had never been granted. . . .

- (3.) Mortification of ROBERT SANDERS of Auldhouse Moveable Estate, in favour of the Merchants House, dated 17th June, 1728, with a Writ of Direction thereon, dated 1st January, 1729, both recorded in the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, 23rd August, 1731.

Be it known to all men by these presents, me, Robert Sanders of Auldhouse, printer in Glasgow, for certain important weighty causes and considerations me hereto moving, Witt ye me failzeing of children to be lawfully procreat of my body, and with and under the burdens, provisions, Reservations, and Conditions underwritten, to have assigned, dispoed, mortified, and overgiven, as I by these presents assign, dispoed, mortify, and overgive, from me and mine, to and in favours of Hugh Rodger, present Dean of Gild of Glasgow, and James Chrystie, present Collector to the Merchants House of the said burgh, and their successors in office, for the Ends and purposes aftermentioned, all Debts and sums of money, whether heritable or moveable, pertaining and belonging to me the time of my decease, whenever the same shall happen, and all goods, geir, Insight and plenishing, silver plate, books bound and unbound, whether of my own printing or others, printing presses, Types, Tools, Instruments, Work Looms, materialls, and others of whatsoever kind ; Declaring always, Likeas it is hereby expressly provided and declared, that thir presents are granted by me to the said Dean of Gild and Collector and Merchants House, with and under the burden of the payment of my haill, just, and lawful debts, and funeral charge and expense, As also with and under the burden of the Reservation of my haill household furniture, and plenishing, and silver plate, to my spouse, In case I happen to marry, and she surviving me, and with the payment to her of Two Thousand merks, Scots money, further of Legacy, which I hereby leave and bequeath to her ; And with the payment of Three Hundred merks money foresaid, to the poor of the Kirk Session of Glasgow, to be paid into the Kirk Treasurer ; And the Remainder of my free means and effects, after deduction of the saids Debts, funeral expenses, and Legacies, and all Expenses thereanent, I hereby will and ordain that the same be applyed and bestowed for setting and putting of five poor boys, or more, if they apply, sons of honest Tradesmen, Burgesses of Glasgow, yearly and ilk year, to apprenticeships to any Lawful Calling within the City of Glasgow, as the boys' parents or Relations shall judge proper, and Each of the saids Boys to be allowed one hundred merks, Scots money, of prentice fee, ay and until the foresaid fee, subject, and means be Exhausted by the saids prentice fees, to commence year and day after my decease ; And I hereby will and ordain that the power of presentation of the saids prentice boys to the said Merchants house be Lodged, in the first place, in the person . . . (successively of James Colhoun, Robert Colhoun, William Colhoun, Walter Colhoun, John Wardrop,) . . . all my nephews ; and failzeing of all of them by decease, in the person of the Dean of Gild and Collector and Members of the Merchants house, and according as the saids Boys shall be presented, from Time to Time, to be put to apprenticeships, the said Merchants house shall admit and Receive them ; and the Dean

of Gild and Collector shall make payment of the prentice fee accordingly ; and that my own blood relations shall, in the first place, have the preference to all others upon their applying, and next, the names of Sanders, Corbet, Colhoun, Wardrop, and Govan have the preference of other Boys, upon application by them, for the said Benefit ; and if my saids Nephews, in whose person the power of presentation is, Neglect or failzie to Nominat and present the saids boys to the Merchants house, to be put to apprenticeships, and suffer fourteen days to Elapse, year and day after my decease, or in any year thereafter suffer fourteen days to Elapse after Expiration of year and day, and not present, that then the Dean of Gild and Collector and Members of the said Merchants house shall have power by themselves to Nominat and present the saids boys to be put to apprenticeships for that year, wherein my saids Nephews Neglect or failzie to present as said is ; And I hereby Nominat and appoint the Magistrats and Council of Glasgow to be overseers of the above fund, that the same be applyed by the Merchants house in the Terms and according as is above ordained ; And I will and ordain that the Merchants house do Inter me Creditably, and in a Decent and Christian manner, and have the management and ordering of my funeral, and if my Nephews above named decline to carry my head to my Interment, then I will and Desire the Dean of Gild for the Time perform that office. . . .

(4.) Writ of Direction by ROBERT SANDERS, endorsed on the back of the Deed of Mortification No. 3.

I, the within Robert Sanders, Considering that by the within Right of my of free, means and effects, after deduction of my debts and funeral expense, and Legacy to the poor therein mentioned, is to be applyed and bestowed for setting and putting of Five poor boys, or more, yearly to apprenticeships, who are to be allowed one hundred merks of prentice fee for each prentice, ay and until my free means and effects be exhausted by the saids prentice fees, I do now for certain causes, and that the free subject may be for ever kept entire, make the alterations following, viz',—I will and ordain that my means and effects within assigned, after the payment of my debts and funeral Expenses, and Legacy to the poor, and other Legacies already made, or to be hereafter made by me, shall be for ever Lodged and Remain w^t the Merchants house as a Stock and fund, and no ways to be delapidat, and the @ rent thereof only to be applyed for putting of poor boys, sons of Burgesses of Glasgow, to apprenticeships yearly, and that to so many boys as the interest of the said free means shall make up one hundred merks of prentice fee to each Boy ; And Considering that it will readily fall out that after Dividing the said Interest by one hundred merks to each prentice, there will be some Excessency of the @ rent, which will not extend to One hundred merks, I ordain that that Excessency be either added to the prentice fees equally, or be kept in the hands of the Merchants house, untill the same amount to one hundred merks, and then be applyed for a prentice fee to a poor boy as above, as the Merchants house shall judge

proper; and Whereas the prentices by the within Right are Restricted to Tradesmen's sons, I hereby alter the same, and will and ordain that the one half of the Number of the prentices be Sons of Merchants, burgesses of Glasgow, and the other half Sons of Tradesmen, And in Case the Number of Tradesmen be odds, I ordain that the odd number be a Merchant and a Tradesman's Son per vices; And I hereby impower the Magistrats of Glasgow for the Time being to state and adjust the extent of my Means and Effects, after money is made thereof, and my debts, funeral Expense, and Legacies are paid by the Merchants house, and according as shall be ascertained by the Magistrats to be the extent of my free means and effects, the Merchants house is to be Lyable for the Interest thereof, From and after the said adjusting and stating, and to be applyed as above, and ordain the Merchants house to give in an account thereof to the Magistrats to the effect foresaid, And I hereby Ratifie the within Right in the hail heads thereof, except in so as is above altered and changed. . . .

(5.) Eik to ROBERT SANDERS', of Auldhouse, Mortification of his moveables, dated 22nd November, 1728, and recorded in the Burgh Court Books of Glasgow, 23rd August, 1731.

Whereas I, Robert Sanders of Auldhouse, printer in Glasgow, have by my Disposition and Assignation, of the date the seventein day of June last by past, mortified, assigned, and dispoed to the Merchants house of Glasgow my whole moveable Estate and means, for the ends and purposes therein spec^d, with a power and faculty reserved to myself to alter or Innovat the sd right, or to burden and affect my sd means as I shall think fit, I do hereby, for certain causes, Burden and affect my sds moveable means and effects with the soums following, To the persons afternamed,—viz^t, To James Colhoun, yor, merch^t in Glasgow, the soume of one thowsand merks, Scots money; To John Woddrop, Writer in Glasgow, the soume of one thowsand merks, Scots money; To Mary Watson, my late servant, the soume of one hundred pund, Scots money; To Margaret M'Culloch, my present Servant, Two hundred pund, Scots; To Christina Jack, my old servant, fifty merks, Scots; and I hereby will and ordain that the Merchants house pay the above soums out of my sd means and effects, year and day after my deceise. . . .

Mortification by DONALDSON'S CLUB in favour of the Merchants House of Glasgow, dated 11th July, 1733.

Be it known to all men by these presents, Us, the Members of That Club or Society in Glasgow, commonly called Donaldson's Club, after-named,—viz^t, John Baird, Andrew Ramsay, William Gordon, Peter Brekanrig, John Riddel, Edward Stitt, Alexander Baillie, John Blackburn, Robert Colhoun, James Chrysty, John Lang, Charles Miller,

Senior, Arthur Tran, John Coulter, James Blair, John Dalgleish, James Robertson, John Ritchie,—all Merchants in Glasgow; James Hamilton of Aikenhead; John Robertson and John Wardrop, Writers in Glasgow; M^r William Stirling and Alex^r Horseburgh, Surgeons there; for the maintainance and Sustentation of the poor and indigent, To have Doted and Mortified, As we hereby, from pure Charity, Dott, Mortify, and Dispone, in perpetuam elymosinam, To and in fayours of Andrew Ramsay, present Dean of Guild, and James Chrystie, Collector of the Merch^{ts} House in Glasgow, and remanent Members of the sd House, and their Successors in office, as Trustees and fide Commissaries for the use and behoove of the poor after-mentioned, All and Haill the Soume of Two hundred and ten pound, Sterling money, of the money belonging to the sd Society or Club, and qch is instantly payd into the sd Dean of Guild and Collector for the sd House, and whereof they, by their acceptation hereof, as well as by their subscribing of the same, Grant the receipt, reuunceing all exceptions in the contrair, with and under the express conditions, provisions, and declarations under-written; Likeas, it is hereby provided and declared that the sd Dean of Gild and Collector and Members of the Merch^{ts} House in Glasgow, and their successors in office in all time coming, shall be bound and obliged, as they by their acceptation hereof bind and oblige them, to keep and observe the rules, orders, constitutions, and appointments following, viz^t,—First, That the sd Dean of Gild and Collector, upon the charge and expense of the sd House, put up a broad in the Merch^{ts} Hall in Glasgow, bearing the whole names and designations of the members of the forsd Society, And that the sd Broad remain in the sd Hall in all time coming; Secondly, That the sd Dean of Gild and Collector and remanent Members of the sd House, and their successors in office, shall be bound and obliged, as they hereby bind and oblige them, To pay fyve pund, Sterling, yearly, to each of two persons to be named and presented as after-provided by the sd Society, and that by four quarterly payments—Lambass, Martiness, Candlemess, and Whitsunday, by equal portions, beginning at Lambass next for the first quarter; Qch persons are to be presented by the sd Society or the majority of ym in life, The sd Society being always not under three in number, and are to enjoy the benefit of the sd mortification during the pleasure only of the sd Society presenters, So that they may be removed whenever the majority of the sd Society shall think fit; And which persons to be presented are to be of decayed members of the sd Society, and failzeing such, the poor widows of the members of the sd Society or their children, or failzeing them, widows whose husbands were merch^{ts} burgesses and gild brothers of the sd City of Glasgow; Thirdly, that in case the number of the enrolled members of the sd Society happen to be under three, then, and in that case, the nomination is to devolve upon the Dean of Gild and the Members of the Merch^{ts} House for the time being, and they shall have the distribution of the sd Charity, wherein they are to have a special regard to present the enrolled members of the sd Society, if any be, and failzeing of these, their widows; and failzeing them, their daughters; and failzeing them, the widows of their near relations being objects of charity; and failzeing them, any two decayed Merchants Widows, as aforsd; Fourthly, The payment of the forsd Charity is to commence upon Lambass first, and the sd Society for this vice have presented, and hereby nominat and present, Marion Porterfield, relict

of the deceased John Fogo, Merch' in Glasgow, and Margaret Scot, relict of the deceased James Muir, Merchant there, to the benefit of the sd Mortification; And the Members of the sd Society are, upon the first Tuesday of May, yearly, in time coming, to continue to nominat or present the persons that are to enjoy the sd Charity, Except in the case of the death or removing of any of the nominees, in qch case the sd Society are to present before the next term after the vacancy; And Lastly, the Members of the sd Merch^{ts} House are never to quarell or impugn this mortification, but duely to maintain the same, and adhere thereto, without any change, v^{ar}iation, or alteration whatsoever, and are to make ane act upon their acceptance hereof, and record these presents, and furnishing the Society forsd with ane extract of the same and of the forsd Act, with and under qch express provisions and conditions these presents are granted and accepted, and no otherways.

Bond granted by the Merchants House for the due fulfilment, and containing the terms, of the Mortification by JOHN LUKE of Claythorn, in favour of The Merchants House, dated said Bond, 20th May, 1737.

Be it known to all men by these presents, Us, John Gartshore, Dean of Gild of the Burgh of Glasgow, and James Chrystie, present Collector to the Merchants House of the sd burgh, and remanent members of the sd Merchants House, subscribing for ourselves, and as representing the Merchant rank of the sd burgh of Glasgow, fforasmuch as the deceased John Luke of Claythorn, Merchant in Glasgow, did, a few days before his death, signify and declare to Martha Miller, then his spouse, now his relict, his intention to mortify to the poor of the Merchants House of Glasgow the soume of ffour thousand Merks, Scots money, for the maintainance of a poor man of the Merchant rank of the qualifications after mentioned, And that by a Memorandum written by the sd Martha Miller, but with very imperfect Jottings, at the dictament of the sd John Luke, He not having then time to execute his intention by a formal deed, did leave it upon his sd spouse to implement the same as she should see cause; And that now in pursuance of said making her sd husband's charitable design effectual, the sd Martha Miller hes made full and compleat payment to us, as representing the sd Merchants House, of the forsd soum of ffour thousand merks, Scots money, and that as a perpetual Stock to remain in our, and our successors in office, hands for ever, destinat and mortified for the purposes, and to be applyd in manner above, and as is more particularly after narrated, of the qch soume of ffour thousand Merks, wee grant the real receipt, removing all exceptions or objections that may or can be proponed in the contrair, Therefor, wee bind and oblige us and our successors in office, Deans of Gild and Collectors and Members of the sd Merch^{ts} House of Glasgow, to make good and thankful payment of the yearly lawful interest of the forsd prin^l soum of ffour thousand

merks, Scots money, to ane poor, decayed, indigent, honest man of the merchant rank, who is ane inhabitant and burgess of the sd burgh of Glasgow during his life, to be nominated and presented to the sd Merchants House, from time to time, by the sd Martha Miller during her lifetime, and after her decease, by Janet Luke, her daughter, spouse to John Grahame of Dougalstoun, and after her decease, by the heirs lawfully procreat, or to be procreat, of the sd Janet Luke her body, and failzeing of the sd Janet Luke, and the heirs lawfully procreat, or to be procreat of her body, by Agnes Luke, the other daughter of the sd Martha Miller, spouse to M' Joseph Williamson, Advocat, and after her decease, by the heirs lawfully procreat, or to be procreat of the sd Agnes Luke her body allenary; which failzeing, the power of presentation of the sd poor decayed man of the qualification forsd to be in the persons of the Dean of Gild and Collector and Members of the sd Merchants House, and to be nominated and appoynted by them, and that by four quarterly payments in the year, Candlemas, Whytsunday, Lambas, and Martimess, beginning the first quarter's payment yrof at the term of Martimess next to come, and so furth termly yrafter in all time coming; declaring allwayes, as it is hereby expressly provided and declared, that in all the presentations to be made by the said Martha Miller, or her sds daughters, or the heirs procreate of their body, or by the sd Merchants House, when the power of presentation shall be lodged in their persons, The sirname of Luke, upon their application, shall have the preference of all others; And failzeing of such applying, and other of the blood relations of the said John Luke, though of another name, upon application shall have the preference, and failzeing of such applying, any other person without distinction. The sd person, whoever he be, whether of the Sirname of Luke, blood relations or oyrways, that is presented, Being allwayes qualified in manner forsd, viz', a poor, indigent, honest man of the merchant rank, who is ane inhabitant in and burgess of the burgh of Glasgow. And to the effect the Mortification of the sd soume of ffour thousand merks may be the more publick and nottour, and that it may never be in the power of us, or any of our successors in office, to Suppress or innovat these presents, Wee bind and obleiss us, and our Successors in office, to cause record these presents in the Books of the sd Merchants House, and to state this present Mortification as a debt upon the sd House in all time coming, And to affix ane abstract thereof upon the wall of the Merchants Hospital, and to renew the same from time to time as occasion shall require, and wee also consent that execution shall pass against us and our successors in office, in case of suppression, innovation, or misapplication of the above Mortification at the instance of the Magistrates and Town Council of Glasgow, for making the above fund furthcoming to the end and use above mentioned; And in regard the sd Martha Miller hes presented George Luke, merchant, as ane inhabitant and burgess of the burgh, Nephew to the Mortifier, son to the deceased John Luke, Merch', alias Bristo John, to enjoy the above benefit of the terms above written: Therefor, wee have received him thereunto, and for the more security we all content and consent that these presents be insert and regrat. . . .

Mortification and Assignation by MRS. MARY RONALD or MOLL,
in favour of the Merchants House, dated 7th October, 1740.

Be it known to all men by these presents, Me, Mary Ronald, relict of the deceast John Moll, Merchant in Glasgow, for certain good considerations me moving, wit ye me to have gifted, assigned, and dispoⁿed, as I hereby, on the conditions after-mentioned, and with and under the provisions following, gift, assign, and dispoⁿe from me, my heirs, exors, and all o^yrs my assigneys, To and in favours of John Gartshore, Dean of Gild of Glasgow for the time, and John Riddell, Collector to the Merchant House of Glasgow, and their successors in office, for ymselves and remanent Members of the Merch^t House of Glasgow, and their Successors in office, All and Haill the sum of Eighty pund, Sterling, prinⁿ, Provyding allwayes, nevertheless, That the sd John Gartshore and John Riddell, and remanent Members of the sd Merchants House, shall be bound and obliged, as by their acceptation hereof They bind and oblige themselves and y^r successors in office, to make payment to me of the dew and ordinar @ rent of the fore-said prinⁿ sum of Eighty pund, Sterling, yearly, and each year at the term of Candlemas, yearly, during my lyfetime. And furder, provyding That the Dean of Gild and remanent Members of the sd Merchants House for the time being shall be holden to observe the following injunctions : In the first place, I appoint the Dean of Gild and Members forsd for the time being, in all time coming after my decease, to present two poor old decayed women in Glasgow, from time to time, as they shall happen to die, and pay each of them thirty shillings, Sterling, per annum, at Candlemas yearly, during their life, and to give the @ rent of the rest of the prinⁿ sum to such poor as the Dean of Gild and Members forsd shall think proper. In the second place, I appoynt the Dean of Gild and Members forsd to begin to present the forsd two poor old decayed women at the first Meeting of the Merch^t House after the first term of Candlemas after my decease. . . .

Agreement between the Merchants House and Patrick Bell
of Cowcaddens, embodying the terms of MARGARET BELL'S
Mortification, dated said Agreement 23d April, 1754.

We, Robert Christie, present Dean of Guild of the Burgh of Glasgow, and John Wilson, Senior, Merchant, present Collector to the Merchants House of the said Burgh, for ourselves and our successors in office, and as representing the said Merchants House on the one part, and Patrick Bell, of Cowcaddens, Merchant in Glasgow, on the other part, Considering That whereas the deceased Margaret Bell, daughter lawful to the deceased M^r Patrick Bell of Cowcaddens, Merchant, late Baillie of Glasgow, my Aunt, By her last Will and Testament, dated the last day of May, Javij and thirty years, did nominate and appoint me, the foresaid Patrick Bell, her only Exeor and universal intromitter, with her whole goods, &c., . . . And appointed me, the said Patrick Bell, her Executor, to defray her funeral expense and pay her lawful debts, . . . (as also certain legacies enumerated in her Settlement). . . Item, She leaves and Legates in pure alms and Charity to the Merchants House of Glasgow, for the use and behoof after-mentioned, the

Sum of Four thousand merks, Scots money, and appoints and ordains that the yearly annual rent of the said Four thousand merks be at Martinmas yearly, distributed to Ministers' Relicts residing in Glasgow, and who shall be found poor and needy, and to the Relicts of Merchants in said City, who shall be found in want, and whose husbands have been in credit, and the said distribution to be made at the sight of the Dean of Guild of Glasgow, one of the Magistrates, and one of the Ministers of the said City for the time, by the said Patrick Bell, her Executor, during my life and after my decease, her nearest of kin as long as they can be known and upon the place, and being major and a male, and after my decease, or, if they be not known or appear not, by the said Merchants House, and appoints the said distributors to have particular regard to these of her own kin and relations, if any of them fall proper objects of the said Charity ; And Likewise provides and Declares that the said Four thousand merks is not to be paid into the said Merchants house to bear @ rent till first her debts and funeral expense and suitable mournings for her Executors and Legators be paid, And whereas . . . (follows a narrative showing) . . . that there remains only of free money of the Inventory in the Confirmed Testament Four hundred twenty-five pound, ten shilling, seven pennies, Scots money, for answering the Four thousand merks legate to the Merchants house, which balance, with the Interest thereof, since Martinmas, Mvij and thirty, will come considerably short of Two thousand merks, and the said Patrick Bell being willing, out of his own proper money, to advance and make up the balance and interest thereof to Two thousand merks as a principal sum, for the memory of his aunt, and Restrict the said legacy of Four thousand merks to Two thousand merks, and the settlement of his Aunt to stand in full force in the terms of her mortification, in so far as extends to Two thousand merks and no further, and the interest thereof annually distributed according to the said Settlement ; Therefore, and for making the same effectual, I, the said Patrick Bell, Bind and Oblige me, my heirs, Executors, Successors, and Intromitters, with my goods and gear whatsoever, thankfully to content, pay, and deliver to the said Robert Christie, Dean of Guild, and John Wilson, Collector, and to their Successors in office, for the use and behoof of the said Merchants house, The above sum of Two thousand merks, Scots money, and that at or betwixt and the term of Martinmas next to come Seventeen hundred and fifty-four years butt delay ; On the other part, We, the said Robert Christie, Dean of Guild, and John Wilson, Collector, for ourselves and our successors in office, do hereby accept of the said Two thousand merks, and, upon payment thereof, We Bind and Oblige us and our successors in office to make payment of and apply the yearly annual rent of the said Two thousand merks, Scots money, in the manner above specified. . . .

Letter from Miss Margaret Spreull anent JAMES SPREULL'S Mortification and relative Minute of the Merchants House, of date 12th December, 1769.

The same day the Dean of Guild presented to the House a Letter, dated the fourth day of December current, directed to him from Miss Margaret Spreull, sister of the

deceased Mr. James Spreull, Merchant in Glasgow, which was read, and is of the following tenor, viz—"Sir,—James Spreull, Merchant in Glasgow, my brother, died intestate, but on death-bed recommended to me and my sisters to Legate and bequeath to the Dean of Guild and Merchants House of Glasgow One hundred pounds, Sterling, to be paid at the death of the last liver of us, for the purpose after-mentioned, by which he meant that we, and the last liver of us, should have the use or interest of the sum during our natural life. Notwithstanding whereof, and of any legal objection competent against the legacy, my sisters and I are willing very soon to pay the foresaid sum to the Collector of the Merchants house for behoof thereof, upon the following conditions:—

"That by an Act of the Dean of Guild and members of the Merchants house, recorded in their books, they become obliged to pay twenty-five shillings, Sterling, at each of the terms of Candlemas, Whitsunday, Lambmass, and Martinmas in all time coming, after paying in the foresaid sum, To such man, being a Merchant burgess and Gild brother,—or woman, being the widow or daughter of a merchant burgess and gild brother,—as I and Janet Spreull and Grizell Spreull, my sisters, and in case of any of our decease, the survivors or survivor of us shall nominate and present to the Dean of Guild and Merchants house, and that whether such man or woman shall of before be on the charity of the house or not, and in case of the refusal or decease of the person so to be nominated by us, to such other man or woman qualified as aforesaid, as I and my said sisters, and the last liver of us, in case of any of our decease, shall nominate and present: And after the decease of the last liver of us, To such man or woman, qualified as aforesaid, as shall be nominated and chosen by the Dean of Guild and members of the Merchants house, or majority of them, They being always obliged to prefer in the first place those of our blood relations, and in the next place those of the name of Spreull in case of more applicants than one. As I and my sisters hope what we propose will readily be complied with, when we are certified thereof, the above sum will soon thereafter be paid into your Collector on receipt, I am, &c."

The Dean of Guild and Merchants house, upon consideration of the matter contained in the said Letter, Agreed now to accept of the Legacy therein mentioned, upon the terms and conditions therein specified, held as here repeated, which they oblige themselves and their successors in office to obtemper and conform to in all points, and empower their Collector to receive the said Legacy accordingly.

Bequest by MR. JAMES WARDROP, Coppersmith in Glasgow, to the Merchants House, contained in his Deed of Settlement, dated 2nd September, 1824, and registered in the General Register of Sasines at Edinburgh, 2nd January, and in the Commissary Court Books at 23rd April, 1828.

By said Deed of Settlement, Mr. Wardrop, inter alia, appoints his Trustees to pay "to the Merchants House of Glasgow, the sum of One hundred pounds, sterling,

to be applied in addition to Robert Sanders of Auldhouse Mortification to that House, for the purpose of Educating and Clothing Apprentices during the last year of their apprenticeship. But declaring that the interest of the above legacy shall be applied for the purpose of Educating and Clothing one such apprentice only at the same time, and that the apprentice to be clothed and educated shall be the one whom the Dean of Guild and the other Managers of the Merchants House of Glasgow shall think most deserves the benefit of the said Legacy."

Bequest by MRS. MARY BUCHANAN or SPEIRS, of Polmont Park,
to the Merchants House.

For the conditions of this Mortification see the Minutes of the Merchants House, of date 25th April, 1850, page 467 hereof.

Excerpts from the Trust Settlement of the late JAMES EWING,
Esq. of Strathleven, dated 9th September, 1844, and recorded
in the Books of Council and Session, 9th December, 1853,
relative to his Bequests of £31,000 to the Merchants House.

"To the Dean of Guild and Directors of the Merchants House of Glasgow, for behoof of that Incorporation, the sum of One thousand pounds ; To the Dean of Guild and Directors of the said Merchants House, the sum of Ten thousand pounds, to be laid out and invested by them in good heritable or personal security, or in such other way as to them may appear most beneficial, taking the securities or titles therefor in name of the said Dean of Guild and Directors for the time being and their successors in office, and to pay, apply, and dispose of annually the interest or annual proceeds of said sum, after deducting all necessary expenses, in pensions or allowances to decayed Glasgow Merchants."

"To the Dean of Guild and Directors of the said Merchants House the sum of Ten thousand pounds, to be laid out and invested by them in good Heritable or personal Security, or in such other way as to them may appear most beneficial, taking the securities or titles therefor in name of the said Dean of Guild and Directors for the time being, and their successors in office, and to pay, apply, and dispose of annually the Interest or annual proceeds of said sum, after deducting all necessary expenses, for the purpose of educating, training, and settling in business the Sons of decayed Glasgow Merchants, to be allocated in such sums and allowances as they may from time to time judge most expedient."

"To the said Dean of Guild and Directors of the said Merchants House of Glasgow

the further sum of Ten thousand pounds, to be laid out and invested by them in good Heritable or Personal security, or in any other way that may appear to them most beneficial, taking the securities or titles therefor in name of the said Dean of Guild and Directors for the time being and their successors in office, and to pay, apply, and dispose of annually the interest or annual proceeds of said sum, after deducting all necessary expenses, in pensions or allowances to Widows and Daughters of decayed Glasgow Merchants."

The Settlement provides for payment of the foregoing Bequests within one year after the death of the Testator, but with power to his Trustees to pay the same at any earlier period they may think proper, should the realized funds of the Trust enable them to do so, of which they are to be the sole judges ; but it is declared that—

"In the event of any deficiency of funds, after paying and liquidating the foresaid provisions in favour of my wife, children, if there any be, and relations, and carrying into effect the other purposes of the Trust, and paying the expenses thereof, then, and in such event, each of the different legacies and annuities before specified shall suffer a proportional abatement according to the amount thereof respectively, the legacies and annuities to my Relations before-named being always preferable to the payment of legacies or annuities to Strangers or Charities."

Excerpt from the Codicil, dated 17th May, 1857, to the Trust
Settlement of the late JAMES BUCHANAN, relative to his
Bequest of £10,000 to the Merchants House.

"To the Merchants House of Glasgow, £10,000 to be invested by my trustees in Bank of England Stock, twelve months after the death of Mrs. Buchanan, in name of the Merchants House in trust for educational purposes on behalf of the sons of decayed members, the dividends to be exclusively expended towards the education of the Sons of decayed members, and granting bursaries to such of them as give evidence of future eminence, in such manner as the directors may deem best."

1

Year.				Year.			
1782,	.	.	£16,127 12 6	1825,	.	.	£25,959 15 10
1783,	.	.	16,171 13 6	1826,	.	.	26,757 3 5
1784,	.	.	16,164 9 8	1827,	.	.	26,647 0 3
1785,	.	.	16,120 14 5	1828,	.	.	26,981 8 3
1786,	.	.	16,276 4 11	1829,	.	.	27,716 11 1
1787,	.	.	16,447 2 2	1830 (New Valuation),	.	.	25,582 8 1
1788,	.	.	16,825 14 0	1831,	.	.	26,048 2 2
1789,	.	.	17,129 4 2	1832,	.	.	25,932 17 3
1790,	.	.	17,237 5 6	1833,	.	.	26,198 0 5
1791,	.	.	17,382 9 2	1834,	.	.	25,820 9 7
1792,	.	.	17,339 3 0	1835,	.	.	26,120 5 10
1793,	.	.	17,369 19 9	1836,	.	.	25,229 2 3
1794,	.	.	17,334 4 0	1837,	.	.	24,487 10 5
1795,	.	.	17,321 14 8	1838,	.	.	23,917 0 3
1796,	.	.	17,289 13 0	1839,	.	.	24,575 14 5
1797,	.	.	17,605 7 9	1840,	.	.	25,002 0 5
1798,	.	.	17,641 12 9	1841,	.	.	29,142 10 0
1799,	.	.	17,840 13 1	1842,	.	.	32,111 7 7
1800,	.	.	17,939 12 1	1843,	.	.	34,834 8 9
1801,	.	.	18,072 13 4	1844,	.	.	36,317 1 10
1802,	.	.	18,155 16 1	1845,	.	.	36,515 3 10
1803,	.	.	18,205 18 7	1846,	.	.	36,555 11 9
1804,	.	.	18,377 17 1	1847,	.	.	36,497 19 1
1805,	.	.	18,716 14 9	1848,	.	.	36,341 4 4
1806,	.	.	18,676 1 3	1849,	.	.	36,860 4 0
1807,	.	.	18,699 5 11	1850,	.	.	38,684 8 11
1808,	.	.	18,393 0 0	1851,	.	.	38,995 15 1
1809,	.	.	19,708 19 10	1852,	.	.	39,562 3 5
1810,	.	.	19,215 5 4	1853,	.	.	40,367 19 9
1811,	.	.	19,328 14 11	1854,	.	.	40,825 6 4
1812,	.	.	21,082 13 3	1855,	.	.	40,836 10 4
1813,	.	.	20,919 9 7	1856,	.	.	41,415 14 5
1814,	.	.	21,181 9 4	1857,	.	.	43,454 2 1
1815,	.	.	21,287 1 9	1858,	.	.	45,396 14 11
1816,	.	.	21,552 17 5	1859,	.	.	45,358 16 0
1817,	.	.	21,727 11 6	1860,	.	.	45,403 8 5
1818,	.	.	24,234 1 0	1861,	.	.	46,867 10 0
1819,	.	.	24,655 13 6	1862,	.	.	48,616 4 9
1820,	.	.	25,415 2 4	1863,	.	.	49,814 17 9
1821 (Hall Fund deducted),	.	.	21,258 15 0	1864,	.	.	54,014 0 9
1822,	.	.	21,625 0 10	1865,	.	.	55,006 16 8
1823,	.	.	21,642 6 8	1866,	.	.	56,684 14 5
1824,	.	.	21,895 1 9				

THE MERCHANTS HOUSE
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST, 1866.

I.—GENERAL FUNDS.

Dr.	
TO INTEREST PAYABLE BY THE HOUSE, VIZ.:—	
On Balance due to James Greenlaw, Assignee of Buchanan's Heirs,	£6 0 0
Credited Special Bequests under charge of the Directors,	779 7 7
	<hr/>
	785 7 7
Less received from Sundries on Loans and on Bank Account,	394 5 3
	<hr/>
	£391 2 4

TO REPAIRS AND ANNUAL BURDENS ON PROPERTIES, VIZ.:—

1. GEORGE SQUARE PROPERTY—

Taxes, £46, 16s. ; Insurance, £39 ;	
Feu-Duty, £3, 8s. 3d.,	£89 4 3
Glazier, £3, 15s. ; Plumber, £3,	
17s. 6d. ; Slater, £12, 7s.,	19 19 6
Mason, 18s. ; Joiner, £13, 6s. ;	
Bellhanger, £1, 2s.,	15 6 0
Valuator's Fees,	10 10 0
	<hr/>
	134 19 9

2. HUTCHESON STREET PROPERTY—

Plumber, £15, 0s. 4d. ; Joiner, £84,	
15s. 5d. ; Painter, £28, 10s.,	128 5 9
Slater, £1, 9s. 9d. ; Bellhanger,	
£6, 19s.,	8 8 9
	<hr/>
Carry forward,	£136 14 6
	<hr/>
	£134 19 9
	<hr/>
	£391 2 4

I.—GENERAL FUNDS—*continued.*

Brought forward, . . .	£136 14 6	£134 19 9	£391 2 4
TO REPAIRS &c.— <i>continued.</i>			
2. HUTCHESON STREET PROPERTY— <i>continued.</i>			
Ironmonger, £5, 5s.; Architect,			
£3, 3s.; Advertising, £3, 6s., .	11 14 0	.	
Taxes, £42, 18s. 7d.; Feu-Duty,			
£8; Insurance, £16, 8s. 6d., .	67 7 1		
	<hr/>	215 15 7	
3. LANDS OF EASTER AND WESTER CRAIGS—			
Local Taxes, £13, 8s. 3d.; Coals,			
6s. 6d.; Measurer, £3, 3s., .	16 17 9		
Plumber, £1, 8s.; Repairing Office,			
£17, 2s. 2d.,	18 10 2		
	<hr/>	35 7 11	
		<hr/>	386 3 3
TO SALARIES AND WAGES, Viz:—			
SALARIES—			
To Collector and Clerk,	300 0 0		
„ Assistant,	80 0 0		
„ Officer,	95 0 0		
WAGES—			
To Quarry Keeper,	42 10 0		
	<hr/>	517 10 0	
TO MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES, Viz:—			
Advertising, £13, 19s. 6d.; Stamps, £20, 6s. 6d., .	34 6 0		
Repairs, &c., £10, 12s. 1d.; Outlays, £29, 16s. 2d.,	40 8 3		
Stationery and Printing, £44, 16s. 3d.; Coals, £10,			
15s. 2d.,	55 11 5		
Gas, £60, 4s. 2d.; Law Agent's Account, £55, 10s.,	115 14 2		
Auditors' Fee for Two Years, £10, 10s.,	10 10 0		
Petty Charges, £2, 2s. 6d.; Rent of Hall-Keeper's			
House, £8, 6s. 8d.,	10 9 2		
Livery for Hall-Keeper, £5, 9s.,	5 9 0		
	<hr/>	272 8 0	
		<hr/>	1,567 3 7
To BALANCE, being Nett Revenue,			2,146 12 9
			<hr/>
			£3,713 16 4
			<hr/>

I.—GENERAL FUNDS—*continued.*TO PENSIONS, *Viz.* :—

On the General Funds of the House, . . .	£1,623 10 0	
Extra Charity (Funeral Charges), . . .	6 5 0	
Precepts (Temporary Relief), . . .	109 10 0	
	<hr/>	£1,739 5 0
To Balance carried to Credit of		
Capital Account, . . .		407 7 9
		<hr/>
		<u>£2,146 12 9</u>

CR.

BY CASUAL INCOME, *Viz.* :—

Proportion of Burgess' Fines and Gold Box Fund, . . .	£24 5 8
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BY DIVIDENDS, *Viz.* :—

From Forth and Clyde Canal Stock, and Railway	
Preference and Guaranteed Shares, . . .	764 5 0

BY FEU-DUTIES AND GROUND ANNUALS, *Viz.* :—

On Lands of Wester Craigs, One Year's Feu, . . .	£45 5 6	
„ Property within the Burgh, One Year's Feu, . . .	34 2 0	
„ Property in Guildry Court, One Year's Ground		
Annual, . . .	230 0 0	
„ Property in St. Vincent Street and Dumbarton		
Road, One Year's Ground Annual, . . .	322 14 6	
	<hr/>	632 2 0

BY RENTS RECEIVED, *Viz.* :—

For Lands of Wester Craigs, . . .	616 1 11	
„ Hutcheson Street Property (including Hall), . . .	507 1 9	
„ George Square Property, . . .	1,170 0 0	
	<hr/>	2,293 3 8
		<hr/>
		<u>£3,713 16 4</u>

II.—EWING'S BEQUEST.

Dr.

To Pensions charged on Bequest for decayed Glasgow Merchants,	£225 0 0	
„ Pensions charged on Bequest for Educational Purposes,	200 0 0	
„ Pensions charged on Bequest for Widows and Daughters of decayed Glasgow Merchants,	215 0 0	
	<hr/>	£640 0 0
To Balance carried to next year,		2 19 6
		<hr/>
		£642 19 6

Cr.

By Reserved Interest Account for Balance brought from last year,	£102 19 6	
„ One Year's Interest on £13,500, invested along with the other Funds of the House, at 4 per cent.,	540 0 0	
	<hr/>	£642 19 6

III.—SPEIRS' GIFT.

Dr.

To Pensions,	£105 0 0
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Cr.

By One Year's Interest on £2,000, 2s. 6d., invested as above, at 4 per cent.,	£80 0 0	
„ Balance from last year,	25 0 0	
	<hr/>	£105 0 0

IV.—AULDHOUSE MORTIFICATION.

Dr.

To Payment of Twelve Apprentice Fees,	£66 13 6	
„ Do. Bursary,	8 6 8	
„ Do. Advertising and Printing,	8 13 6	
	<hr/>	£83 13 8

IV.—AULDHOUSE MORTIFICATION—*continued.*

CR.	
By Balance from last year,	£12 11 3
„ Feu-duty at Pollokshaws,	£37 10 0
Less Feu-duty paid to Sir John Maxwell,	1 7 9
	<hr/>
	36 2 3
„ Interest on Capital Sum Mortified, included in the General Investments of the House, at 4 per cent., .	24 8 9
„ Balance, being Deficiency,	10 11 5
	<hr/>
	£83 13 8
	<hr/>

V.—SUNDRY SMALL MORTIFICATIONS.

DR.	
To Pensions Paid,	£104 11 8
	<hr/>
CR.	
By Interest transferred from General Interest Account, being at about 4 per cent. on Sums Mortified,	£104 11 8
	<hr/>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, 31st AUGUST, 1866.

DR.	
To BALANCE carried forward, being Nett estimated value of the Property of the House, exclusive of special Mortifications under charge of the Directors,	£56,684 14 5
	<hr/>
CR.	
BY BALANCE, at 31st August, 1865, being the Nett Capital belonging to the House, according to the Statement of that date,	£55,006 16 8
BY CASH RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR, VIZ:—	
Entry-Money of New Members,	£1,270 10 0
By Balance of Revenue over Expenditure,	407 7 9
	<hr/>
	1,677 17 9
	<hr/>
	£56,684 14 5
	<hr/>

BALANCE.

DR.

To HERITABLE PROPERTY, VIZ:—

Lands of Easter and Wester Craigs,	£7,952	4	0	
Subjects in Hutcheson Street, at Cost Price,	11,075	15	2	
Subjects in George Square, do.,	15,351	14	6	
				<u>£34,379 13 8</u>

To FEU-DUTIES AND GROUND ANNUALS, VIZ:—

Feu-Duties within the Burgh of Glasgow,	272	10	0	
Ground Annual payable from Tenements in Dum-				
barton Road, &c.,	7,528	16	10	
Ground Annual of £230 in Guildry Court,	5,000	0	0	
				<u>12,801 6 10</u>

To LOAN, VIZ:—

To Clyde Trustees,	9,500	0	0	
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To STOCK IN FORTH AND CLYDE NAVIGATION, VIZ:—

Five Shares at the original amount at which they were presented				
by the late Mr. Kingan,	500	0	0	

To FURNITURE OF HALL AND CHAMBERS—

Valued at	380	19	6	
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To PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX ALLOWED (to be Repaid by Exchequer), 67 7 5

To RAILWAY STOCKS, VIZ:—

Caledonian—£2,200 Preference 5 per Cent. Stock,				
the Gift of the late Thomas Buchanan, Esq.,	2,475	0	0	
Caledonian—£2,000 Preference 5 per Cent., and				
£2,175 Preference 4½ per Cent. Stock, taken				
at Cost,	4,458	3	0	
North British—				
£800 5 per Cent. Preference				
(1863) Stock, at Cost, £824 2 0				
.				
Carry forward,	£824	2	0	£6,933 3 0 £57,629 7 5

BALANCE—*continued*.

Brought forward, . . .	£824	2	0	£6,933	3	0	£57,629	7	5
To RAILWAY STOCKS— <i>continued</i> .									
North British— <i>continued</i> .									
£700 Monkland Preference 6 per Cent. Stock, at Cost,	852	1	9						
45 New 5 per Cent. Monkland Guaranteed Shares, . . . do.	501	0	0						
£500 No. 1 Guaranteed 5 per Cent. Stock, . . . do.	505	2	6						
£1,560 Edinburgh and Glasgow 5 per Cent. Preference, . . . do.	1,767	17	0						
£260 Edinburgh and Glasgow No. 3 5 per Cent. Preference, . . . do.	260	0	0						
						4,710	3	3	
Scottish North-Eastern—£500 4½ per Cent. Preference Stock, at Cost,									
						459	18	0	
North of Scotland—£1,500 Preference 4½ per Cent. Stock, do.									
						1,507	10	0	
Glasgow and South-Western—£500 Preference 5 per Cent. Stock, do.									
						586	0	6	
London and North-Western—£6,000 Preference 4 per Cent. Stock, do.									
						5,333	8	0	
							19,530	2	9
To STOCK IN GLASGOW CORPORATION WATER WORKS—									
£1,000 4½ per Cent. Annuities, taken at Cost,						1,064	17	10	
„ UNION BANK OF SCOTLAND,						99	2	0	
„ AULDHOUSE MORTIFICATION, Balance,						10	11	5	
							£78,334	1	5
CR.									
BY DEBT—									
Amount due to James Greenlaw, Assignee of Buchanan's Heirs,									
						£150	0	0	
Amount due to Necropolis,									
						2,100	0	0	
							£2,250	0	0
Carry forward,						£2,250	0	0	

BALANCE—*continued*.

Brought forward,	£2,250	0	0
BY BENEFACTIONS UNDER CHARGE OF THE HOUSE FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES, VIZ.:—			
Robert Sanders' of Auldhouse,	£611	2	2½
Patrick Bell's,	111	2	2½
Thomas Thomson's,	111	2	2½
Margaret Bell's,	116	13	2¼
John Graham's,	87	6	8
Donaldson's Club,	221	5	0
James Govan's,	691	0	0½
Thomas Peters',	172	13	4
John Aird's,	516	13	1½
John Luke's,	227	15	6½
Margaret Moll's,	84	17	6
James Spreull's,	100	0	0
Charles Selkrig's,	50	0	0
	£3,101	11	1
Speirs' Gift,	2,000	2	6
The late Mr. Campbell of Colgrain, Donation by him, subject to contingency stated in Minute of 16th July, 1862,	789	16	7
James Ewing's Bequests.—Amount received to Account of Legacies destined for specific objects,	13,500	0	0
	19,391	10	2
BY NEW HISTORY ACCOUNT,	1	1	0
„ INTEREST accrued on James Ewing's Bequests, reserved for future appropriation,	2	19	6
„ BALANCE, being Nett Stock,	56,684	14	5
„ „ due Collector,	3	16	4
	£78,334	1	5

NECROPOLIS OF GLASGOW

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st AUGUST, 1866.

RECEIPTS.

Dr.

I. CASH IN UNION BANK—		
1st September, 1865,		£94 1 1
II. PROPERTY DISPOSED OF—		
Ground Sold,	£920 6 6	
Deduct for Commission on Sales, £10 15 6		
Ground Re-purchased,	4 4 0	
	<u>14 19 6</u>	
		905 7 0
III. REIMBURSED EXPENDITURE—		
Workmanship and Materials,		461 5 0
IV. CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY AND TRANSFERS—		
Amount received during the year,		23 19 6
V. FEES OF INTERMENT—		
In Family Ground,	245 0 6	
For Single Sepulture,	245 13 6	
	<u>490 14 0</u>	
VI. RENTS—		
Drygate Property, Amount Collected,	55 8 0	
House and Stables in Field,	20 0 0	
	<u>75 8 0</u>	
VII. INTEREST—		
On Union Bank Account,		4 1 1
		<u>£2,054 15 8</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cr.

I. ANNUAL BURDENS—		
Feu to the City of Glasgow,	£5 0 0	
Insurance,	0 12 6	
Local Taxes, less Amount repaid by Tenants,	9 18 5	
	<u>£15 10 11</u>	
II. WORKMANSHIP AND MATERIALS—		
Lime and Drain Tiles, £11, 0s. 10d.; Stones and Pavement for Vaults, £88, 16s. 1d.; Seeds, £5, 19s. 3d.,	105 16 2	
Carry forward,	£105 16 2	£15 10 11

4 N

DISBURSEMENTS—*continued.*

Brought forward, . . .	£105 16 2	£15 10 11
II. WORKMANSHIP, &c.— <i>continued.</i>		
Cast-Iron Bearers, £45, 14s. 6d.; Tools and Smith		
Work, £28, 14s. 7d.; Forming Sewer, £22, 3s.		
8d.; Sand, 10s. 6d.,	97 3 3.	
Wright, Plumber, Slater, and Plaster Work, £27,		
3s. 4d.; Stobs, £1, 12s.; Painting, £2, 8s., .	31 3 4	
	<hr/>	234 2 9
III. REPAIRS ON HOUSE PROPERTY—		
HOUSE IN FIELD—Painting, Whitewashing, &c.,		3 14 0
IV. SALARIES AND WAGES—		
Salary to Superintendent,	80 0 0	
WAGES TO OPERATIVES AND WATCHMAN—		
Regular men, including Cartages,	640 3 11	
	<hr/>	720 3 11
V. MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES—		
Gas and Coals, £5, 6s. 2d.; Incidents, £13, 1s. 8d.,	18 7 10	
Cleaning Gatehouse, £1, 17s. 6d.; Lighting, £2,		
15s. 6d.; Oil, 2s. 6d.,	4 15 6	
	<hr/>	23 3 4
VI. MERCHANTS HOUSE—		
Further Loan to,		900 0 0
VII. UNION BANK OF SCOTLAND—		
Amount at Credit, 31st August, 1866,		129 1 1
VIII. CASH—		
In Collector's hands,		28 19 8
		<hr/>
		£2,054 15 8
		<hr/>

BALANCE.

Dr.		
To Fir Park Property,	£1,850 0 0	
„ Drygate Property,	3,113 3 9	
„ House at Wester Craigs,	522 2 5	
„ Value of Materials on hand,	304 2 0	
„ Merchants House, for Sums transferred,	2,100 0 0	
„ Union Bank of Scotland,	129 1 1	
„ Balance in hands of Collector,	28 19 8	
	<hr/>	£8,047 8 11
Cr.		
By STOCK ACCOUNT,	£8,047 8 11	
	<hr/>	

SCRIPTURE RULES
TO BE OBSERVED IN BUYING AND SELLING.

RULES CONCERNING BUYING COMMODITIES.

1. If you would not transgress Scripture rules in buying; then first take heed that you do not discommend those commodities that are very good, which you are about to buy, that so you may bring down the price of the Commodity, and get it for less than it is worth: There is a known place of Scripture for this, in Prov. 20. 14. It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth. People in Solomons time they were so Wicked, that when they came to the market to buy any thing, the buyer he would discommend the commodity, and say, it was naught, though it were very good and saleable: but when the seller was gone, then he would boast of what a good penny worth he had bought, and the like.

2. Do not make vows and protestations, that you will give no more for a Commodity, than what you have first offered, when afterwards you will give more. This is a very common thing with Trades-men: You shall have a man come to a shop, and cheapen a Commodity, and the buyer he will say, He will not give a farthing more, and the seller will say, He will not take a farthing less, and yet both the buyer gives more, and the seller takes less: Now this is no other than a palpable and downright lye.

3. Do not give counterfeit money for those Commodities you buy: this you have an example of in Abraham, when he was to buy the field on Machpelah of Ephron the Hittite, for a burying Place, in Gen. 23. 16. saith Abraham, I will give thee four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchand: and therefore you transgress Scripture rules, if you know you have brass money, or counterfeit gold about you, and yet pay it away for commodities, you sin in doing so, though you yourself took it for Commodities.

4. Do not give for a Commodity less than in your conscience you think it is worth; it is an open oppression in buying, when you seek to bring a Commodity under its due value and worth. Abraham when he was to buy the Cave in Machpelah of Ephron, saith he, I will give thee the worth of it in money: And so David when he was to buy the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite, 2 Sam. 24. 24. saith he I will buy it of thee at the full value of it.

5. Do not long defer the paying for those Commodities which you have bought, when thou hast by the wherewithall to pay it: there is an excellent place for this in Prov. 3, 27. 28. withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the

power of thy hand to do it: say not unto thy neighbour, Go and come again, and to-morrow I will give, when thou hast it by thee, This text is referred to works of mercy, but it hath relation to buying and selling, and trading in the world: If you owe a man money for a Commodity, you ought to pay him, and not to let him come day after day for it: and go without it, when you have it by you, 2 Kings 4. 7. it is the badge of a wicked man in Scripture, not to pay his debts, in Psal. 37. 21. The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again.

6. Do not engross a Commodity, that is, do not buy all of a Commodity into your own hands alone, that by that means you may sell the Commodity at your own price; this is a meer oppression, destructive to a Common wealth, and to all trading; the Scripture condemns this in Prov. 11. 26. it is spoken there of Corn-mungers; saith the Text, He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it, in Solomons time there were cornmungers that when corn was cheap, would go and buy all the corn in the country, and would keep it up, and sell none till corn was very dear; now, saith the Text, He that doth this the people shall curse him for it; but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it. Now, it is no sin in it-self to engross a Commodity, thereby to sell it the cheaper, but for a man to engross a Commodity, meerly thereby to advance the price of it; this is such an oppression, that the people shall curse him for it.

7. Do not in your buying a Commodity take any advantage of the mistake or oversight of the seller; as suppose you should come to a shop and buy so many yards of cloth, or the like, and he should give thee more than is thy due, or take less money of thee than is his due, you should take no advantage of him in such a case, but restore it again: for, if you take anything more from him than you bought of him, it is theft; or if you give any less for the Commodity than you bargained for, it is theft, there is an excellent place for this in Gen. 43. 12. Jacob when there was a famine in the land, he sent his sons down into Egypt to buy corn, and Joseph he knowing his brethren, filled their sacks with corn, and put the money which they brought for the corn, in the mouth of their sacks again; and when they came home and found their money in the mouth of their sacks, they told their Father Jacob of it; then saith he to them, Go back again and take double money in your hand, and the money that was brought again in the mouth of your sacks, carry it again in your hands, for peradventure it was an oversight; here was a conscienciousness in Jacob.

8. Do not buy any Commodities on the Lords Day: it is true, upon urgent occasions to maintain life either in man or beast, this is lawfull, but to buy any thing, that you may well be without till monday, in this case you sin, if you buy any thing on the Lords Day, Neh: 10. 31. And Nehemiah entered into an oath, and the people with him, that if any of the people of the land brought wares, or any victuals to sell on the Sabbathday, that they would not buy it of them, and as the law did not give them leave to break the Jewish Sabbath, so neither doth the Gospel give us leave to break the Christian Sabbath; and therefor I cannot see but that it is a sin for men to buy either wine, or beer, or pepper, or mustard, or any other trivial things, which they may well be without, on the Sabbath day.

9. Do not in buying a commoditie, work upon the necessity of a poor man, that hath need of money: this is a great sin in Trades-men, they know that a poor man wants money, and he must sell off his ware, or else he cannot buy bread for his family, and therefore they will work upon his necessity, and will not buy the commoditie of him, unless he will sell it cheaper than he can afford it, now this is a great oppression, in the 25. of Levit. 14. If thou buyest any thing of thy neighbour, or sellest any thing to thy neighbour, thou must not use oppression. There is an oppression in buying as well as in selling, it is a great oppression for rich men to work upon the necessity of a poor man, to make him sell cheaper then he can afford, or else to buy nothing at all of him.

10. Do not buy those things which are not fit to be bought and sold: as first, Do not buy stollen goods, they are not fit to be bought: if thou knowest that the goods that are to be bought are stollen goods, they are not to be bought, but to be restored; as the receiver is as bad as the thief, so the buyer is as bad as the thief: Secondly, Do not buy monumentes of Idolatrie, for they are not fit to be bought, as Crosses, Beads, and Images, and Crucifixes, and the like, Thirdly, Do not buy Men for slaves, this the Lord reproves in Amos. 2. 6. They sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes; and so in Deut. 27. Thou shalt not steal thy Brother and make merchandise of him: We should therefore take heed lest we split our souls upon any of these rocks, and let us labour that among all our buyings, we buy that which Christ bids us buy; in Esay 55. 1. Ho every one that thirsteth, come you unto the waters, and he that hath no money, come buy, and eat; yea come buy wine and milk without monie, and without price.

RULES CONCERNING SELLING COMMODITIES.

1. If you would not transgress Scripture rules in selling Commodities, then in the first place do not multiply words in selling; the Scripture affords many examples for this, as in Gen. 23. 15.—Abraham, as I told you before, when he was to buy the cave of Machpelah, of Ephron, he told him that it was worth four hundred shekels of silver, and Abraham presently gave him so much current monie with the merchant: And so God Himself takes upon Him to be a seller, in Zech. 11. 12. if you think good, saith God, Give me my price; if not forbear; multiplicity of words is needless; In a multitude of words, saith Solomon, ther is Sin: Men should not lavish and frolick in a shop.

2. Do not commend and over-praise a Commoditie, when you know in your conscience, that there is a fault in it: this is a vicious carriage in the seller, when he shall use abundance of fine words to set out a Commoditie when it is not good. As the buyer should not discommend a Commoditie when it is good: so should not the seller over praise and commend a Commoditie, when it is naught.

3. Do not sell thy Commodities by false weights, nor by false measures: do not keep a deceitful ballance, or a deceitful measure, this is condemned in Amos 8. 5. They make the Ephah small, and the Shekel great, and falsifie the ballances by deceit: and so in the 20. of Prov. 10. Divers weights, and measures, both of them are an abomination unto the Lord. Now this is spoken, not that the weights and measures in themselves are an abomination to the Lord, but only those men that do use, and keep, and sell by

those weights and measures; and therefore the Lord gave a special law for this, to all that did follow trades in Israel, in Deut. 25. 14, 15. saith God there, Thou shalt not have in thy house diverse measures, a great and a small, that is, a great measure to buy by and a small one to sell by; Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small; but thou shalt have a perfect and a just weight, and a perfect and a just measure shalt thou have, that thy dayes may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee: and so in Micah 6. 10. Is there yet, saith God, the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure, which is an abomination unto the Lord?

4. You are to make conscience in selling a Commodity, not only that you do not speak falsely, but also that you do not speak in an equivocating manner. It is an observation that Luther hath upon these words, Let no man defraud his Brother, saith he, there are many Shop-keepers that will not lye, but they will equivocat, very much; you shall have a Trades-man, to sell off a Commodity he will get a partner with him, and he shall offer so much for a Commodity, and then he will tell the next man that comes for that Commodity, that there was one offered him so much for it but even now: and then they will say likewise, it cost me so much, when it may be they had other things with it of a greater value and price, and it may be they had a great deal of time given them to pay for it, whereas the buyer payes ready money; and many other equivocating words they use, which is as bad as lying.

5. In selling a Commodity, do not work upon the ignorance or simplicity of the man that comes to buy the Commodity; but if you discern him to be unskilful, rather use him the better, than the worse; in Zepha. 1. 9. sayes God there, In the same day also will I punish all those young men, that leap on the threshold, which fill their maisters houses with violence and deceit: and so in Thess. 4. 6. Let no man, sayes the Apostle, go beyond or defraud his brother in any matter, for the Lord is the avenger of all such; and so in 2 Pet. 2. 3. And through covetousnesse shall they with fained words make merchandise of you, whose judgment lingereth not. When men shall work upon the ignorance of the buyer, and so advance the price of the Commodity, this is a great sin.

6. Do not debase a Commodity from its primitive worth and goodness, and yet sell it at the full price, as if it were good, thereby to get the more by it: this the Scripture condemns in Amos. 8. 6. They sell the refuse of the wheat; the Corn-mungers, in those times they would pick out the best of their wheat, and yet sell the worst at the full price of the best: now, this the Lord condemns: and so in Esay, 1. 22. they mingle wine with water, and dross with silver; the Scripture condemns this, to debase a Commodity from its primitive goodness, and yet to sell it at the full value of the best.

7. Be not among the first that shall raise the price of a Commodity; this I hinted to you before, in Prov. 11. 26. He that withholdeth corn the people shall curse him; but blessings shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

8. Be not so eager in selling of your Commodities, that you cannot content yourselves to sell on the six dayes of the week, but you must sell on the Sabbath Day likewise; be not like those in Amos. 8. 5. saying, when will the new moon be over, that we may sell corn, and the Sabbath be over, that we may set forth wheat? and so in Neh. 13. 15. In those dayes, saith the prophet, saw I in Judah, some treading wine

Presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading Asses, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. Now, this is against your common selling-houses, and shops of mean trades, that sell by retail, that make nothing of selling small trifling things on the Sabbath Day; but this is a great sin.

9. When you are found out to be deceitful in your dealing, do not justify your deceit; many men, if you come to them, and tell them, that they sell dearer than their neighbours, they will tell you, that they do not; or if you tell them that the Commoditie is not good which you bought of them, they will say, it is as good as they can afford for the price, and the like; this is condemned in Ephraim, Hos. 12. 7. 8. Ephraim is a Merchant, the ballances of deceit are in his hand, he loveth to oppresse, and yet he saith, I am become rich, and I have found me out substance, and in all my labours they shall find no iniquity in me, that is sin; you should not justify your deceit.

10. Do not sell those things that are not saleable; as first, do not sell spiritual things, for they are not saleable, as in Act. 8. 20. Simon Magus when he would have bought the gift of the holy Ghost with money Peter saith to him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou thoughtest that the gift of God might be purchased with money. Secondly, do not sell monumentes of Idolatrie; as Crosses, and Beads, and Images and Crucifixes, and conjuring Books, and the like; they are not fit to be sold, as in Act. 19. 19. many also of them that used curious arts, brought their books together, and burned them before all men, and they counted the price of them and found it to be 50,000. pieces of silver; this is spoken here of conjuring Books: and notwithstanding they were of so great a value, they would not sell them, but burned them. Thirdly, Do not sell thyself as Ahab did, to work wickednesse; for you are not your own, but Gods; and therefore you must glorifie God in your bodies, and in your souls which are Gods. Fourthly, You must not sell stollen goods. Fifthly, You must not sell those things that are for no other use, but for to commit sin in the using of them; as for to sell stuffe to paint harlots faces, is a sin, because it is for no other use but to commit sin in the using of it.

1

MEMORANDA

BY

ANDREW SCOTT, LATE OF H. M. CUSTOMS,

RESPECTING THE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COMMUNICATIONS OF GLASGOW
BY RIVER, CANAL, AND RAILWAY.

As regards the River, the deepening thereof has been gradually going on for many years; but the progress was very limited till about 1824, when dredging by steam power was commenced, and the improvement made since is very remarkable, the vessels which arrived at the Broomielaw last year having amounted in number to 15,232, eight of which drew 20 feet water, and eighty-eight were 1,000 tons and upwards. The amount of the river and harbour dues that year is equally striking, having reached the magnificent sum of £121,587, 11s. 11d., compared with £402 in 1775, and £4,640 in 1803. In the year 1803 our sea-going vessels were composed of six, ranging from 20 to 54 tons, plying regularly to Ayr, Stranraer, Campbelton, and Oban *via* Crinan Canal. In 1804 the "Betseys," of 35 tons, commenced plying with passengers and goods to and from Belfast.

The mighty impetus given to our trade, however, was the introduction of steam for the propulsion of vessels, and commenced, in 1812, by the "Comet," of 25 tons, which was the first steam vessel which plied on any river in Europe, sailing between Glasgow, Greenock, and Helensburgh; followed in 1813 by the "Clyde," which plied to Gourrock; and in 1815, after plying some time between Glasgow, Greenock, and Gourrock, the "Dumbarton Castle" ventured to Rothesay; thereafter the "Glasgow" to Largs; the "Britannia" to Campbelton; the "Rothesay Castle," in 1816, *via* the Kyles of Bute, to Ardrishaig and Inverary; the "Rob Roy," of 56 tons, in 1818, to Belfast; and the "Ben Nevis," of 44 tons, in 1824, *via* Crinan Canal, to Oban and Fort-William.

The "Trusty" and "Industry," built in 1814, were the first steam lighters on the river. The latter, now above fifty years old, is still plying on her original route, and is unquestionably the oldest steam vessel in existence in Europe.

The "Samson," of 53 tons, with two engines of 20 horse power each, built in 1819, was the first steamer employed in towing ships up and down the river, and the first steam tug in Europe.

The "Post Boy," of 54 tons, built in 1820, was the first steam vessel which plied on the Clyde at a fixed hour, without reference to the state of the tide.

The immense improvements on the Clyde render our merchants less dependent than formerly for supplies from other seaports; but even in regard to these, the formation of canals and railways have greatly added to the facilities and lessened the expense of such traffic. Thus as to Canals, the Forth and Clyde Canal, from Grangemouth, was not constructed the length of Hamilton Hill, where a basin was formed, till 1777, or brought to Port-Dundas till 1790. This canal was twenty-two years in progress, and did not reach from sea to sea—that is, from Grangemouth on the Forth, to Bowling Bay on the Clyde—till July, 1790. The Monkland Canal was only in progress in 1790, and it was at a later date that it reached Port-Dundas.

The Glasgow, Paisley, and Ardrossan Canal was opened for navigation between Glasgow and Johnston in 1811.

The Union Canal, from Port-Hopeton, near Edinburgh, to Port-Downie, near Falkirk, was opened in 1822.

As to Railways:—

The Glasgow and Garnkirk line was opened in the year 1831.

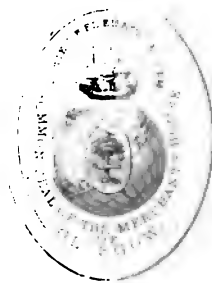
The Glasgow and Greenock in 1840, since amalgamated with the Caledonian.

The Glasgow and Ayr in 1840, extended in 1848 to Dumfries and Carlisle.

The Edinburgh and Glasgow in 1842.

The Caledonian in 1848.

The Bowling Bay and Loch Lomond in 1850, and the Glasgow and Helensburgh in 1858, subsequently amalgamated with the Edinburgh and Glasgow, and both in 1865 with the North British Railway.



GLOSSARY

OF

PECULIAR WORDS, ORTHOGRAPHY, AND CONTRACTIONS,

OCCURRING IN THIS VOLUME.

<i>@</i> , above, as to.	<i>Beand</i> , being.	<i>Ceis</i> , <i>ceiss</i> , cease.
<i>Aboue</i> , <i>aboueerrittin</i> , above, abovewritten.	<i>Beir</i> , beer.	<i>Cforme</i> , <i>coforme</i> , conform.
<i>Absentis</i> , absentera.	<i>Beis</i> , is, are.	<i>Chairge</i> , <i>chardge</i> , <i>chary</i> , charge.
<i>Acker</i> , <i>aikera</i> , <i>aikera</i> , acre, acres.	<i>Behaiou</i> *, behaviour.	<i>Chalmer</i> , chamber.
<i>Actionis</i> , actions.	<i>Belconnie</i> , balcony.	<i>Cheisin</i> , <i>cheising</i> , chosen.
<i>Actualsie</i> , actually.	<i>Betuene</i> , between.	<i>Choysed</i> , <i>chosyn</i> , choosed, chosen.
<i>Adois</i> , concerns, affairs.	<i>Beit</i> *, <i>betuiz</i> , <i>betuiz</i> , betwixt.	<i>Chyrurgion</i> , surgeon.
<i>Adrocaune</i> , advocacy.	<i>Bier</i> , bear.	<i>Cing</i> , <i>coing</i> , <i>cuing</i> , coming.
<i>Aff</i> , off.	<i>Biganis</i> , byegone.	<i>Clame</i> , claim.
<i>Aganis</i> , <i>ag</i> *, against.	<i>Biggit</i> , <i>bigit</i> *, bullded.	<i>Cleiring</i> , clearing.
<i>Aill</i> , ale.	<i>Billea</i> , bills.	<i>Cley</i> , clay.
<i>Air</i> , <i>aris</i> , heir, heirs.	<i>Blak</i> , black.	<i>Clierie</i> , clearly.
<i>Ay</i> , <i>ailhe</i> , <i>ay</i> *, oath.	<i>Blew</i> , blue.	<i>Clk</i> , clerk.
<i>Aither</i> , <i>alther</i> , either.	<i>Bot</i> , but.	<i>Clois</i> , close.
<i>Aittis</i> , oats.	<i>Breder</i> , <i>bretherine</i> , <i>brethering</i> , <i>bryren</i> , <i>bryrin</i> , <i>brythren</i> , brethren.	<i>Colect</i> , collection.
<i>Ald</i> , <i>eld</i> , old.	<i>Brek</i> , <i>breking</i> , break, breaking.	<i>Coll</i> *, collector.
<i>Allegacounis</i> , <i>allegacounis</i> , allegations.	<i>Bringand</i> , bringing.	<i>Colour</i> , pretence.
<i>Allec</i> , eleven.	<i>Broad</i> , <i>brod</i> , board.	<i>Comon</i> , <i>comona</i> , <i>comoun</i> , common.
<i>Allouit</i> , <i>allot</i> *, allowed.	<i>Brocht</i> , brought.	<i>Complainers</i> , complainers.
<i>Almous</i> , alma, almshouse.	<i>Broy</i> *, <i>broyheid</i> , brother, brotherhood.	<i>Compt</i> , <i>comptis</i> , account, accounts.
<i>Als</i> , also, as.	<i>Bruet</i> , burgh.	<i>Comit</i> , committed.
<i>Alteracunes</i> , alterations.	<i>Buikis</i> , books.	<i>Condeschend</i> , <i>condishend</i> , condescend.
<i>Althoe</i> , <i>althou</i> , although.	<i>Buird</i> , <i>buirdis</i> , board, boards.	<i>Confirmis</i> , <i>firmis</i> , confirms.
<i>Ane</i> , an, one.	<i>Buist</i> , <i>builhe</i> , booth.	<i>Conjly</i> , conjunctly.
<i>Anells</i> , <i>annth</i> , annals.	<i>Bukil</i> , bucket.	<i>Contentaun</i> , contention.
<i>Ansy</i> *, answer.	<i>Bund</i> , bound.	<i>Continoued</i> , <i>clinesit</i> , continued.
<i>Armouris</i> , armour.	<i>Bunteth</i> , reward, recompense.	<i>Contrar</i> , <i>contrare</i> , <i>cotrain</i> , contrary.
<i>Arrabill</i> , arable.	<i>Burdin</i> , <i>burding</i> , burthen.	<i>Coperil</i> , <i>cperil</i> , <i>comperit</i> , <i>cpeirand</i> , com- peared, compearing.
<i>Assins</i> , <i>assignyt</i> , <i>assit</i> , assigns, assigned.	<i>Burrow</i> , <i>bur</i> *, <i>burghis</i> , <i>burrowis</i> , burgh, burghs.	<i>Corse</i> , cross.
<i>Assisteris</i> , assistants.	<i>But</i> , without.	<i>Colenit</i> , <i>clenit</i> , contained.
<i>Atuiz</i> , <i>atuzit</i> , betwixt.	<i>By</i> , buy.	<i>Corenit</i> , <i>crenit</i> , <i>convenit</i> , convened.
<i>Aucht</i> , <i>aucht</i> , ought.	<i>Byd</i> , stand.	<i>Copent</i> , <i>coplent</i> , <i>complant</i> , complaint.
<i>Auhit</i> , owed.		<i>Craftsme</i> , <i>craftsma</i> , craftsmen.
<i>Auth</i> , <i>au^{er}</i> , authority, authorities.		<i>Cracand</i> , <i>craveand</i> , craving.
<i>Awand</i> , <i>awine</i> , owing.	<i>Caice</i> , <i>caise</i> , case.	<i>Cremers</i> , hucksters, small traders.
<i>Awine</i> , <i>awn</i> , own.	<i>Callit</i> , called.	<i>Croce</i> , <i>croze</i> , cross.
<i>Awaris</i> , owners.	<i>Caum</i> , caution.	<i>Cruyt</i> *, decayed in circumstances.
<i>Ayer</i> , either.	<i>Carrieing</i> , carrying.	<i>Csent</i> , <i>conset</i> , consent.
	<i>Ca^{er}</i> , cautioners.	<i>Csidbrit</i> , considered.
<i>Band</i> , bond.	<i>Cassualeiteis</i> , <i>casualties</i> , casualties.	<i>Ctempt</i> , contempt.
<i>Barter</i> , baker.	<i>Cattell</i> , cattle.	<i>Ctent</i> , <i>colent</i> , content.
<i>Bayt</i> , both.	<i>Caitioun</i> , <i>caitioun</i> , condition.	<i>Ctractit</i> , <i>coctactit</i> , contracted.
<i>Be</i> , by.		

<i>Cullour</i> , <i>cullo</i> °, pretence.	<i>Factouris</i> , factors.	<i>Hydis</i> , hides.
<i>Cum</i> , <i>cumis</i> , come, comes.	<i>Fader</i> , <i>faiv</i> °, father.	<i>Hym</i> , him.
<i>Curao</i> °, curators.	<i>Faizie</i> , <i>faizeing</i> , fail, failure, failing.	
<i>Custoume</i> , custom.	<i>Fallia</i> , falls.	<i>Ik</i> , <i>ilke</i> , each.
<i>Crist</i> , convict.	<i>Fallois</i> , <i>falloues</i> , <i>following</i> , follows, following.	<i>Incurrit</i> , incurred.
	<i>Falt</i> , fault.	<i>Instace</i> , instance.
<i>D</i> , <i>dein</i> , <i>den</i> , dean.	<i>Farder</i> , farther.	<i>Insuinge</i> , ensuing.
<i>Daid</i> , <i>daited</i> , <i>daik</i> , <i>daik</i> , dated, date.	<i>Feiris</i> , fears.	<i>Inuiring</i> , injuring.
<i>Dailles</i> , deals, pinewood.	<i>Fie</i> , fee.	<i>Ioice</i> , enjoy.
<i>Daillie</i> , daily.	<i>Fleischores</i> , fleshers.	<i>Ische</i> , ish.
<i>Dampnage</i> , damage.	<i>Flud</i> , flood.	
<i>Dampnift</i> , damaged.	<i>Foir</i> , fore.	<i>Jari</i> , <i>Jary</i> , <i>Jmej</i> , one thousand six hundred.
<i>Dealand</i> , dealing.	<i>Foranentis</i> , before, opposite.	<i>Jaschoill</i> , jawhole.
<i>Debauchit</i> , debauched.	<i>Forbere</i> , forbear.	<i>Jasiegis</i> , dirty water.
<i>Desist</i> , desist.	<i>Fra</i> , from.	<i>Jedge and Warrant</i> , Dean of Guild Warrant to rebuild or repair a ruinous tenement.
<i>Defer</i> , <i>deje</i> °, defender.	<i>Frauchding</i> , freighting.	<i>Jhone</i> , <i>Jo</i> °, John.
<i>Defraudyt</i> , defrauded.	<i>Frie</i> , <i>friedm</i> , free, freedom.	<i>Jok</i> , <i>Jonel</i> , <i>Janet</i> .
<i>Deidhis</i> , deeds.	<i>Fund</i> , found.	<i>Joyne</i> , join.
<i>Dekin</i> , <i>dekym</i> , deacon.	<i>Furder</i> , further.	<i>Judgeme</i> °, judgment.
<i>Delivered</i> , delivered.	<i>Furneing</i> , furnishing.	
<i>Dependat</i> °, dependants.	<i>Furt</i> , <i>furt</i> , furth.	
<i>Dept</i> , <i>depiit</i> , departed.	<i>Fyfte</i> , fifty.	
<i>Depursements</i> , disbursements.	<i>Fyne</i> , <i>fynes</i> , <i>fynis</i> , <i>fynis</i> , fine, fines.	<i>Kaber</i> , rafter.
<i>Des</i> , decret.	<i>Fyre</i> , fire.	<i>Kingis</i> , kings.
<i>Deu</i> , <i>dev</i> , due.	<i>Fyching</i> , fishing.	<i>Kirkman</i> , churchman.
<i>Deuydit</i> , <i>derydit</i> , divided.		<i>Kynd</i> , kind.
<i>Dight</i> , clean.	<i>Ger</i> , cause.	
<i>Dinging down</i> , casting, or knocking down.	<i>Gevin</i> , <i>giffn</i> , given.	<i>Ladies</i> , customs or dues on certain articles brought into town, see p. 184.
<i>Discess</i> , decease.	<i>Gif</i> , give, if.	<i>Laiche</i> , low.
<i>Distrinzie</i> , distrain.	<i>Gildbreyir</i> , guildbrother.	<i>Laillie</i> , <i>lallie</i> , lately.
<i>Diurs</i> , diversa.	<i>Giltie</i> , guilty.	<i>Lamas</i> , <i>Lambes</i> , <i>Lammas</i> term.
<i>Dni</i> , domini.	<i>Grde anells</i> , ground annuall.	<i>Law</i> °, <i>law</i> °, <i>lawil</i> , <i>lawillie</i> , lawful, lawfully.
<i>Dochter</i> , daughter.	<i>Greit</i> , <i>grett</i> , <i>gret</i> , great.	<i>Lave</i> , <i>layff</i> , rest, remainder.
<i>Doe</i> , <i>dois</i> , do, does.	<i>Grund</i> , ground.	<i>Leasome</i> , lawful.
<i>Domuills</i> , household articles.	<i>Gude</i> , <i>guid</i> , good.	<i>Leddirtz</i> , ladders.
<i>Duck</i> , duke.	<i>Gyle</i> , gulle.	<i>Leife</i> , leave.
<i>Duell</i> , <i>duelland</i> , dwell, dwelling.		<i>Leiters</i> , electors.
<i>Dyck</i> , <i>dyk</i> , dyke.	<i>Haid</i> , had.	<i>Lether</i> , leather.
<i>Dyets</i> , diets.	<i>Haif</i> , <i>haifand</i> , <i>haifing</i> , have, having.	<i>Lik</i> , <i>lyk</i> , like.
	<i>Haill</i> , <i>haillsaill</i> , whole, wholesale.	<i>Litt</i> , <i>lister</i> , clothweavers.
<i>Eduy</i> °, Edinburgh.	<i>Hairt</i> , heart.	<i>Liver</i> , deliver, unload.
<i>Effrand</i> , effeiring, pertaining.	<i>Hablyn</i> , holden.	<i>Lo</i> °—Lord.
<i>Eftir</i> , after.	<i>Halts</i> , halves.	<i>Louve</i> , <i>luf</i> , <i>lufe</i> , lure, love.
<i>Eftirnone</i> , afternoon.	<i>Harn</i> , coarse linen.	<i>Loretennent</i> , lieutenant.
<i>Ellis</i> , <i>ells</i> , else.	<i>Harnes</i> , harness.	<i>Lre</i> , letter.
<i>Ellwand</i> , <i>ellwandis</i> , ellwand or measure, ellwands.	<i>Hartlie</i> , heartily.	<i>Ly</i> , <i>lye</i> , lie.
<i>Encress</i> , increase.	<i>Have</i> , <i>haucinge</i> , have, having.	<i>Lyand</i> , lying.
<i>Endyt</i> , ended.	<i>Haunting</i> , using, frequenting.	<i>Lyftym</i> , lifetime.
<i>Enseing</i> , ensuing.	<i>Heich</i> , <i>heiche</i> , <i>heigh</i> , <i>heicht</i> , high, height.	<i>Lymbucillie</i> , limeholes.
<i>Entrit</i> , entered.	<i>Heirefter</i> , hereafter.	<i>Lynerie</i> , lyners.
<i>Erdyt</i> , buried.	<i>Heiut</i> , herewith.	<i>Lyt</i> , <i>lytis</i> , leet, leets.
<i>Erl</i> , earl.	<i>Herete</i> , <i>herb</i> °, heritable.	
<i>Eschele</i> , escheat, forfeiture.	<i>Heritoris</i> , heritors.	<i>Magrat</i> , <i>mgratia</i> , <i>mgrat</i> °, magistrate, magistrates.
<i>Eter</i> , enter.	<i>Hes</i> , <i>heis</i> , has.	<i>Mailitioualie</i> , maliciously.
<i>Etrie</i> , entry.	<i>Hir</i> , her.	<i>Maill</i> , rent.
<i>Eutonulla</i> , utensils.	<i>Hogheid</i> , hog'shead.	<i>Maister</i> , <i>maisterman</i> , master, headman.
<i>Eterie</i> , every.	<i>Hoill</i> , hole.	<i>Manie</i> , <i>manye</i> , many.
<i>Exauctorated</i> , <i>extituted</i> , divested of authority.	<i>Holdine</i> , holden.	<i>Manir</i> , manner.
<i>Exchequer</i> , exchequer.	<i>Holkie</i> , weekly.	<i>Manis</i> , man's.
<i>Erecu</i> °ne, execution.	<i>Honoll</i> , honourable.	<i>Mantene</i> , maintain.
<i>Erpens</i> , <i>expens</i> , <i>expens</i> , expense, expenses.	<i>Hous</i> , <i>houss</i> , <i>houss</i> , house.	
	<i>Hudge</i> , huge.	
	<i>Hundreath</i> , hundred.	

Marchand, marchand, marchand, merchant.
Marie, mariand, marry, marrying.
Markatiz, markets.
March, march.
Mai^{re}, matie, majesty.
Mattira, mattira, mattira, matters.
Mchand, mchandia, merchant, merchants.
Mda, mrd^{re}, merchants.
Mediur^{ne}, mediation.
Menta, mentioned.
Mercat, mcat, mrt, market.
Merchia, marches.
Merd, meri, merchade, merchant, merchants.
Merks, merks, pl. of merk, 13s. 4d. Scots.
Mich, might.
Misora, miso^{re}, measures.
Moir, more.
Monethe, mont, month.
Monnonday, Monday.
Monye, mye, money.
M^{rs}, masters.
Mutch, much.
Mute, mutes, dispute, disputes.
Mylne, mill.
My^e, might.

Na, no.
Narrest, nearest.
Nay^e, ney^e, neither.
Nedcessitie, necessity.
Nichbor, neighbor, neighbour.
Nightborhead, nythborheid, neighbourhood.
Nocht, nothing.
Noe, no.
Noiat, nomi, nominate.
Nort, north.
Nottar, notary.

Oblias, oblige.
Obseving, observing.
Occupyand, in connection with.
Occupul, occupied.
Off^r, off^{re}, officairis, off^{re}, officer, officers.
On, ons, one, ones.
Onseillit, unsealed.
O^r, our.
Ordinar, ordiner, ordinary.
Ordour, order.
Ors, others.
Othe, oath.
Ouklie, weekly.
Oume, owing.
Outreike, to fit out.
Oueht, ought.
Oure, over.
Oyer, oy^e, oys, other, others.

Parliar, parliament.
Paroch, paroche, parish.
Passand, passing.
Payt, Payme^t, payment.
Pba^{un}, probau^{ne}, probation.
Perseuit, persuit, pseuit, pursued, prosecuted.
Persounes, psonis, psounes, persons.
Perting, pertaining.
Plesora, pleasures.
Piment, parliament.
Pne^e, presence.
Pnt, p^{sent}, pntis, pntis, pntis, pntlie, pntly, pnt^{re}, pntit, present, presents, presently, presented.
Poffe, piece of land.
Portadges, porterages.
Pouerte, poverty.
Preferit, preferred.
Preifing, proving.
Premisa, premises.
Prentise, apprentice.
Preveining, preventing.
Prin^l, principal.
Proffit profute, profit.
Pronuce, pronounce.
Propertes, purports, sets forth.
Pror, pro^r, procurator.
Provine, proven.
Provyd, provide.
P^{re}sens, p^{re}sence, presence.
Prescript, prescript, prescribed.
Psewar, presewaris, pursuer, pursuers.
Psaully, personally.
Pt, p^t, pts, ptis, pties, part, parts, parties.
Ptined, pertained.
Ptner, partner.
Purche, purchase.
Pure, poor.
P^{re}vis, provost.

Qa, q^a, who.
Qch, q^a, which.
Qho, who.
Qlk, which.
Qi, while.
Q^a, whom.
Q^a, when.
Qntitie, quantity.
Q^a, where.
Q^{ter}is, q^{ter}ed, quarters, quartered.
Q^{ter}ly, quarterly.
Q^uis, wherewith.
Qⁱ, quit, what.
Q^uomever, q^uoever, q^usumevir, q^uhatsumevir, whatsoever.
Qualifte, qualify.
Quha, quhaever, who, whoever.
Quhair, quhairfoir, quharin, where, wherfore, wherein.
Quhaiz, whose.
Quhan, when.
Quhat, what.
Quhilk, which.

Quo^o, quhom, who, whom.
Quor^m, quorum.

Raisyt, raised.
Rattionnaw, Rottenrow.
Rd, read, read, received.
Red, read, also, to put in order.
Reddie, reddines, ready, readines.
Regrat, registered.
Reik, smoke.
Rekning, reknigis, reckoning, reckonings.
Rela^{ne}, relation.
Relleif, relieve.
Reminteit, reprimanded.
Resaret, resagit, received.
Resaif, resare, receive.
Resounis, reasons.
Restad, restand, resting.
Reixre, respective, respectively.
Roumes, rooms.
Ruiff, roof.
Ruyme, ruin.
Rys, ryse, rise, rises.
Ryt, rytis, right, rights.

Sai, sail, salbe, shall, shall be.
Salmonde, salmon, pl.
Sam, samen, samin, samyen, samyn, samyne, same.
Sawine, sown.
Schawin, shown.
Sche, scho, she.
Scheim, scheme.
Schillingis, shillinga.
Schine, shine.
Schirefdom, shieriffdom.
Sd, sdes, eds, said, saids.
Seal, seally, several, severally.
Seallors, sailers, sailors.
Searine, searintine, seven, seventean.
See, sey, sea.
Seik, sick.
Seillit, sealed.
Seisings, sasinos.
Sellaris, sellers.
Sen, since.
Sevice, service, service.
Sevands, stants, servants.
Sic, so.
Sicht, sichtit, sight, sighted.
Sicklike, likewise.
Sindry, indrie, sundry.
Sittand, sitting.
Skaith, scathit, hurt.
Sklait, sklate, sclait, slate.
Slynnis, skins.
Sla, slay.
Sone, son.
Sould, should.
Soum, soume, soume, sum.
Souplings, sweepings.
Sou^t, sou^t, south.
Socerties, sureties.

<i>Speal, speallie, speally, special, specially.</i>	<i>Trashe, trash.</i>	<i>Wall, well.</i>
<i>Speedilie, speedily.</i>	<i>Tred, trade.</i>	<i>War, war, wars.</i>
<i>Speitt, specified.</i>	<i>Trew, true.</i>	<i>Wark, work.</i>
<i>S'reing, serving.</i>	<i>Trueth, truth.</i>	<i>Warrant, warrant.</i>
<i>Stabill greine, stable green.</i>	<i>Tro, terms.</i>	<i>Wast, west.</i>
<i>Stallit, installed.</i>	<i>Trubbus, troublesome, disturbed.</i>	<i>W'e, wont.</i>
<i>Stanchorit, stancheoned.</i>	<i>Trubill, trouble.</i>	<i>Wacht, wecht, weight.</i>
<i>Stentaria, stenters.</i>	<i>Tryell, trial.</i>	<i>Well, weel.</i>
<i>Stok, stock.</i>	<i>Tway, tuesday.</i>	<i>Werk, werks, work, works.</i>
<i>Stopis, stops, steps, also, stoups.</i>	<i>Twelf, twelve.</i>	<i>Was, was.</i>
<i>Strangear, stranger.</i>	<i>Tuca, two.</i>	<i>Whilk, which.</i>
<i>Stroe, straw.</i>	<i>Tyme, time.</i>	<i>Whill, until.</i>
<i>Stryking, striking.</i>	<i>Tyn, tyme, lose.</i>	<i>Wholl, whole.</i>
<i>Subncea, substances.</i>	<i>Tyncheid, townhead.</i>	<i>Wik, week.</i>
<i>Subscribe, subre, subscrivand, subscribe, subscribing.</i>	<i>Umqr, umquhile, deceased.</i>	<i>Wit, w', win, withyn, wythin, with, within.</i>
<i>Subt, subscribed.</i>	<i>Und, under.</i>	<i>Whitsun-monnaunday, Whitsun-monday.</i>
<i>Sud, should.</i>	<i>Undebursit, undisbursed.</i>	<i>Woll, wool.</i>
<i>Suffillie, sufficiently.</i>	<i>Unfreeman, one not having the freedom of the burgh or guildry.</i>	<i>Wrack, wreck, decay, damage.</i>
<i>Suffil, sufficient.</i>	<i>Unlaw, fine.</i>	<i>Wrang, wrangis, wrong, wrongs.</i>
<i>Suir, sure.</i>	<i>Untreu, untrue.</i>	<i>Wricht, wright.</i>
<i>Sum, sumtym, some, sometime.</i>	<i>Upoun, upon.</i>	<i>Writ, wryt, written.</i>
<i>Supplicat, supplicants.</i>	<i>Upset, entry money.</i>	<i>Write, writing.</i>
<i>Suca, so.</i>	<i>Usand, using.</i>	<i>Wryt, write.</i>
<i>Syd, side.</i>	<i>Usat, used.</i>	<i>Withdrawing, withdrawing.</i>
<i>Syme, since, then.</i>	<i>Uther, uthers, other, others.</i>	<i>Whosday, Whitsunday, Whitsunday.</i>
<i>Syor, sewer.</i>	<i>Uy's, others.</i>	<i>Wyse, wise.</i>
<i>Tabill, table.</i>		
<i>Tain, taken.</i>	<i>Vacand, vacant.</i>	<i>Yai, yei, they.</i>
<i>Tak, take, also, tack or lease.</i>	<i>Vallor, value, avall.</i>	<i>Yaim, yame, them.</i>
<i>Takand, taking.</i>	<i>Vehlie, weighty.</i>	<i>Yair, yairthrow, yairviths, their, there-through, therewith.</i>
<i>Tane, taken.</i>	<i>Ver, very.</i>	<i>Yaird, yard.</i>
<i>Tapp, tapper, to sell in small quantities, one who does so.</i>	<i>Verefed, verified.</i>	<i>Yar, their.</i>
<i>Taxa'nis, taxations.</i>	<i>Veachells, reahells, reasels.</i>	<i>Yat, that.</i>
<i>Telled, tilled.</i>	<i>Vicers, food.</i>	<i>Ye, the.</i>
<i>Thack, thatch.</i>	<i>Vinders, under.</i>	<i>Yei, yei, yem, they, their, them.</i>
<i>Thair, thairby, therby, thereby.</i>	<i>Vntes, unless.</i>	<i>Yem, then.</i>
<i>Theis, these.</i>	<i>Volt, vote.</i>	<i>Yed, gate.</i>
<i>Thee, thes', treasurer, treasurers.</i>	<i>Voyters, voters.</i>	<i>Yires, years.</i>
<i>Therfra, therefor.</i>	<i>Yp, up.</i>	<i>Yis, this.</i>
<i>Therteane, thretlean, thirteen.</i>	<i>Yphaldin, upholden.</i>	<i>Y'm, them.</i>
<i>Thir, their, these.</i>	<i>Ypon, upon.</i>	<i>Yor, younger.</i>
<i>Thow, thaw.</i>	<i>Yrang, wrong.</i>	<i>Y', their.</i>
<i>Thousan, thousand.</i>	<i>Yrattin, written.</i>	<i>Y'ef, y'e'tir, thereafter.</i>
<i>Thretty, thirty.</i>	<i>Yse, vsit, use, used.</i>	<i>Y'oir, therefore.</i>
<i>Thrid, third.</i>	<i>Ysing, using.</i>	<i>Y'rae, therefrom.</i>
<i>Thro, throw, throwie, through, thorough-ly.</i>	<i>Yter, utter.</i>	<i>Y'in, therein.</i>
<i>Thrys, tryse, thrice.</i>	<i>Yther, other.</i>	<i>Y'intill, thereunto.</i>
<i>Till, to.</i>	<i>Yyer, yvir, yvr, yv', cyeris, ryre, other, others.</i>	<i>Y'rof, thereof.</i>
<i>Tinsell, forfeiture.</i>	<i>Yyerrayis, otherways.</i>	<i>Y'sels, themselves.</i>
<i>Tolb, tolbut, tolbooth.</i>	<i>Yyld, wild.</i>	<i>Y'thou, thorough.</i>
<i>Touk, took.</i>		<i>Y', that.</i>
<i>Tounes, touncheid, towns, townhead.</i>	<i>Wadell, mortgage, pledge in security.</i>	
	<i>Wair, waires, ware, wares.</i>	<i>Zaird, zairds, yard, yards.</i>

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